

Margaret Thatcher, Iron Lady, dead at 87



This is a Tuesday, June, 8, 2010 file photo of Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron poses with former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on the doorstep of 10 Downing Street in London.

Associated Press

**GREGORY KATZ
ROBERT BARR**
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Love her or loathe her, one thing's beyond dispute: Margaret Thatcher transformed Britain.

The Iron Lady, who ruled for 11 remarkable years, imposed her will on a fractious, rundown nation — breaking the unions, triumphing in a far-off war, and selling off state industries at a record pace. She left behind a leaner government and more prosperous nation by the time a political mutiny ousted her from No. 10 Downing Street. Thatcher's spokesman, Tim Bell, said the former prime minister died from a stroke Monday morning at the Ritz hotel in London. As flags were flown at half-staff at Buckingham Palace, Parliament and Downing Street for the 87-year-old, praise for Thatcher and her leadership poured in from around the world.

"Margaret Thatcher undoubtedly was one of the most remarkable political figures of the modern

world," said Russian President Vladimir Putin. Putin said Thatcher "made a significant contribution to the development of the Soviet-British and Russian-British ties, which we will always remember with gratitude." President Barack Obama said many Americans "will never forget her standing shoulder to shoulder with President (Ronald) Reagan, reminding the world that we are not simply carried along by the currents of history. We can shape them with moral conviction, unyielding courage and iron will." Queen Elizabeth II authorized a ceremonial funeral — a step short of a state funeral — to be held for Thatcher at St. Paul's Cathedral in London next week with military honors. Prime Minister David Cameron cut short a trip to Madrid and Paris to return to Britain following news of Thatcher's death, and said Parliament would be recalled from recess on Wednesday so lawmakers could pay tribute.

Continued on Page 12



In this Feb. 21, 2013 file photo, police officer Jeff Strack stands near the entrance at Jordan Elementary School in Jordan, Minn. Associated Press

Barack Obama pressures Congress over gun control

HARTFORD, Connecticut (AP) — President Barack Obama arrived Monday in Connecticut, where a deadly school shooting in December shocked the nation, looking for a breakthrough in his efforts to curb gun violence as the U.S. Congress returns from a two-week recess with gun control legislation high on the agenda.

A gunman killed 20 young

children and six educators in Newtown in one the worst school shootings ever in the U.S. State lawmakers last week passed one of the strictest gun control laws in the country.

"The day Newtown happened was the toughest day of my presidency," Obama said. "But I've got to tell you, if we don't respond to this, that'll be a tough day for me too."

The president is also providing rides to 11 relatives of those killed in the shooting at the Sandy Hook Elementary School so they can attend his gun control speech Monday before heading to Washington on Air Force One to personally encourage senators to back gun legislation that faces tough opposition.

Continued on Page 3

Annette Funicello, Mouseketeer and film star, dies

In this Jan. 3, 1978 file photo, actress Annette Funicello recalls moments when she played a "Mouseketeer" on ABC's first successful daytime television show, "The Mickey Mouse Club" in Los Angeles, while she was taping an ABC Silver Anniversary Celebration special. Walt Disney Co. says, Monday, April 8, 2013, that Funicello, also known for her beach movies with Frankie Avalon, has died at age 70.

Associated Press
Page 30



Lawmakers push for new sanctions on Iran

DONNA CASSATA

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The failure of negotiations between six world powers and Iran over its disputed nuclear program has jumpstarted the congressional push for even tougher sanctions aimed at crippling the economy in Tehran.

The latest talks this past weekend in Kazakhstan proved inconclusive as the United States, Russia, China, France, Britain and Germany pressed Iran to significantly limit its production and stockpiling of uranium enrichment.

The international community fears Tehran is developing a nuclear weapon; Iran insists its work is for peaceful purposes.

The stalled negotiations — there were no plans for new talks — gave fresh impetus to bipartisan legislation in the House to impose new sanctions on Iran while Republican Sen. Mark Kirk was putting together a package of penalties likely in the next week or so, according to congressional aides and sanctions experts.

The penalties are certain to



Saeed Jalili, secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council smiles as he leaves a mosque during a break in high-level talks between world powers and Iranian officials in Almaty, Kazakhstan, Friday, April 5, 2013.

Associated Press

draw strong bipartisan support as lawmakers, fearful of Iran's ambitions and worried about its threat to Israel, have overwhelmingly embraced past sanctions legislation. The latest effort would mark the fifth time since June 2010 that Congress has slapped penalties on Iran.

"I'm concerned Tehran is only using talks as a delaying tactic — in the same way North Korea used a similar tactic to develop

its nuclear arsenal," Rep. Ed Royce, the Republican chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said in a statement. "Rather, the bipartisan legislation I've introduced further increases economic pressure on Iranian leaders to give up their nuclear weapons program. Congress will continue to turn up the pressure; it is our best chance to succeed."

Royce and Rep. Eliot Engel, the top Democrat on the committee, introduced

legislation in February that would broaden sanctions on Iran by expanding the list of blacklisted Iranian companies and moving to cut off Tehran's access to the euro.

Kirk, a top sponsor of sanctions legislation since his arrival in the Senate in January 2011, is crafting a bill that would target regime officials on human rights with travel bans and seizure of assets, and essentially impose a commercial and financial embargo on Iran. It also would basically impose a tough arms embargo on Iran, its proxies in Gaza and southern Lebanon, as well as North Korea, Syria and Sudan. The measure would close loopholes in current law on Iran's access to foreign exchange reserves.

Current sanctions have undercut the Iranian economy, causing high unemployment and inflation while daily oil production and the value of the country's currency, the rial, have dropped.

In the latest round of talks, the six world powers were unable to persuade Iran

to limit its production and stockpiling of uranium enrichment to 20 percent and close its underground Fordo enrichment site.

Mark Dubowitz, a sanctions expert and executive director of the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, said lawmakers sense an imperative to act and ratchet up the pressure.

"I think everybody was waiting for this latest round in Almaty (Kazakhstan). Now that that's deemed to be a failure, Congress realizes that time is running out and clearly the current sanctions have not yet cracked the nuclear will of Iran's supreme leader," Dubowitz said.

The concern is that Iran is 15 months from an undetectable nuclear breakout yet has the sufficient foreign exchanges to last beyond that date.

"The question now is whether in that short period of time, the U.S. can massively intensify the sanctions and bring the regime to the brink of economic collapse before the regime achieves an undetectable nuclear breakout," he said. □

U.S. clears way to arm, train Somali forces

JOSH LEDERMAN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama cleared the way Monday for the U.S. to arm and train Somali forces, taking a step toward normal relations with the East African nation as it works to build confidence in its newly recognized government.

In a memo to Secretary of State John Kerry, Obama said he has determined that supplying defense equipment and services "will strengthen the security of the United States and promote world peace." The move doesn't immediately provide new assistance to Somalia, but allows Kerry to consider taking that step in the future.

Somalia is trying to preserve fragile progress toward establishing its first functional government after two de-

cades of chaos. The U.S. formally recognized the African nation's new government in January — the first time the U.S. had recognized a Somali government since 1991, when warlords overthrew longtime dictator Siad Barre and then turned on one another.

"The United States is committed to being a long-term partner in assisting the defense forces in Somalia defense to become a professional military force," said National Security Council spokeswoman Caitlin Hayden.

A relative peace has returned to Somalia's war-battered capital of Mogadishu since African Union forces ousted al-Shabab — a militant group loosely associated with al-Qaida — from the city over 18 months ago. But al-Shabab rebels are not yet defeated, and

the U.S. remains concerned about the threat the group could pose to the region's stability. The U.S. designated al-Shabab a terrorist group in 2008.

Obama's decision was not tied to any new threat assessment in Somalia, said a senior administration official, who was not authorized to discuss security assessments publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

The move follows a decision by the U.N. Security Council, after an appeal from Somali officials, to partially suspend the arms embargo on Somalia for 12 months. The council preserved a ban on exports of a list of heavy military hardware, including surface-to-air missiles, anti-tank guided weapons and night-vision weapons.

The U.S. government has



U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, speaks at the US consulate in Jerusalem, Israel, Monday, April 8, 2013. Holocaust memorial day is one of the most solemn on Israel's calendar.

Associated Press

provided funds and training to African Union forces fighting al-Shabab in Somalia, and has also provided more than \$133 million to Somalia since 2007 in security sector assistance, intended to help the country build up and profes-

sionalize its security forces. Obama's memorandum on Friday opens the door for military-to-military relations, allowing the U.S. to provide equipment, training and other assistance directly to Somalia's government and military. □

Barack Obama

Continued from front

After Obama's speech in Hartford, the state capital, relatives of seven children and one staffer killed during December's massacre at the school will travel back to Washington with him, according to the nonprofit organization that works with the families, Sandy Hook Promise.

The administration moved quickly after the shooting amid concerns that the high emotions would settle and politics would go back to normal on one of the country's most sensitive issues. The top gun lobby has opposed the gun control drive, and the president's proposals have weakened in the months since the shooting amid fears that the more controversial ones, such as an assault weapons ban, will harm an overall gun control package.

One of Obama's senior advisers, Dan Pfeiffer, suggested to ABC on Sunday that the lack of a straightforward vote because of legislative maneuvering would be an insult to people who lost family members in the shooting. He pointed out that senators of both parties had applauded when Obama called for a vote during his State of the Union speech in January.

"Now that the cameras are off and they are not forced to look the Newtown families in the face, now they want to make it harder and filibuster it," Pfeiffer said.

Senators could start debating gun legislation before week's end, but leaders might take more time to seek a breakthrough deal on expanding background checks for gun buyers — the proposal seen as having the best chance of passage. Two influential senators, one from the Democrats and one from opposition Republicans, are working on an agreement that could expand background checks on firearms sales to include gun shows and online transactions, Senate aides



President Obama embraces Nicole Hockley, who lost her son Dylan in the Newtown, Conn. school shooting, while honoring shooting victim's families during a visit to the University of Hartford, in Hartford, Conn., Monday, April 8, 2013.

Associated Press

said Sunday.

Federal background checks are currently required only for transactions handled by the roughly 55,000 federally licensed firearms dealers. Private sales such as gun show or online purchases are exempt. The system is designed to keep guns from criminals, people with serious mental problems, some drug abusers and others.

After the Connecticut massacre, Obama proposed applying the requirement to virtually all firearms sales. Gun control advocates consider expanded background checks to be the most effective step lawmakers could take to curb gun violence.

The National Rifle Association, the nation's most powerful gun lobby, and other critics say the checks are ignored by criminals, and they fear that expanding the system could be a step to the government maintaining files on gun owners. Instead, the NRA proposed arming teachers arming teachers to respond such threats in the future. In several states, lawmakers quickly proposed legislation that would allow trained teachers to carry hidden guns into the classroom as a "line of defense" against attackers.

Man in U.S. terror plot gets 17-year sentence

SEATTLE (AP) — A man who helped plot an attack with machine guns and grenades on a military complex in Seattle was sentenced in federal court Monday to 17 years in prison, the U.S. attorney's office said. Walli Mujahidh, 34, of Los Angeles, pleaded guilty in December to conspiracy to kill officers of the U.S., conspiracy to use weapons of mass destruction and unlawful possession of a firearm. "This defendant was a cold-hearted, enthusiastic partner in this murderous scheme. He talked at length in recorded conversations about the innocent people he planned to gun down," said U.S. Attorney Jenny A. Durkan. "Even after his arrest he boldly tried to justify his plot. I am thankful this plot was disrupted, and again thank the FBI and Seattle Police Department." A co-defendant in the case, Abu Khalid Abdul-Latif, 35, of Seattle, was sentenced last month to 18 years in prison. He plead-

ed guilty to conspiracy to use weapons of mass destruction and murder U.S. officers. Law enforcement was alerted to the plot by a person who was approached by Abdul-Latif about supplying guns and who acted as an informant. The conspirators were recorded on audio and video discussing an assault on the Military Entrance Processing Station in south Seattle where the military processes enlistees. The station houses military and civilian employees and a federal daycare. In the recordings, the men discuss how they wanted to gun down people in revenge for atrocities by U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan, prosecutors said.

"During the planning sessions for the attack, Mujahidh made clear that he was eager to kill his intended victims, and as many as possible. He made numerous statements along these lines while he and Abdul-Latif planned out the play-by-play move-

ments of the attackers using the map of the Federal Center South building," prosecutors wrote in their sentencing memo. The two men were arrested in June 2011 when they arrived at a warehouse to pick up three machine guns. The weapons had been rendered inoperable by law enforcement. □

So far, South Dakota is the only state to respond with a new law allowing school personnel to carry guns into elementary and high schools. Similar legislation is awaiting the governor's signature in Kansas. And Arkansas has enacted a new law allowing colleges to let staff with concealed gun permits bring their weapons on campus.

Yet less than four months later, the quest to put guns in schools has stalled in many traditionally gun-friendly states after encountering opposition from educators, reluctance from some governors and ambivalence from legislative leaders more focused on economic initiatives.

The loss of momentum highlights how difficult it can be to advance any gun legislation, whether to adopt greater restrictions or expand the rights to carry weapons. □



In this 2004 photo provided by the Washington State Department of Corrections, shows Abu Khalid Abdul-Latif, also known as Joseph Anthony Davis, of Seattle.

Associated Press

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Reagan, Thatcher forged a close, lasting bond

TOM RAUM

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Margaret Thatcher and Ronald Reagan, two self-assured and firm-speaking conservatives, joined forces in the early 1980s and drastically changed the economic and political landscapes in both of their countries. Their calls for more-austere government and lower taxes still resonate with conservatives on both sides of the Atlantic. And their side-by-side standing up to Soviet communism is credited by those of all political stripes as hastening the end of the Cold War. Thatcher died Monday in London of a stroke at 87. The British prime minister and the American president had the kind of personal bond that is extremely rare at such high levels of power.

She was the first and last White House State Dinner guest during Reagan's eight-year presidency. And when he died in 2004, at 93 after suffering for years with Alzheimer's disease, a frail Thatcher attended his state funeral.

"They had similar backgrounds and in some ways could understand what the other was experiencing," said Heather Conley, director of Europe programs for the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington.

"And they had unique solidarity. They were tough, they were single-minded in many ways. Some have argued that that lack of complexity was their shortcoming. But in some ways, their focus was their strength," Conley said.

Reagan and Thatcher forged a special friendship "from the very beginning, the first time they met," former first lady Nancy Reagan said Monday.

"I loved it that she and Ronnie were as close as they



In a Friday, July 17, 1987 file photo, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of the United Kingdom, left, makes remarks after visiting United States President Ronald Reagan, right, at the White House in Washington, D.C.

were," she told Fox News. Thatcher led Britain's Conservative Party to three election victories, governing from 1979 to 1990. Reagan was president from 1981 to 1989. Both cut income taxes deeply and reined in national government spending. Both favored privatizing many government functions. Both stood up to organized labor. Both tackled inflation. Both were strong advocates of free markets and increased open international trade. And both had a lasting — and controversial — impact on their own and opposing political parties in their respective nations. Reagan's supply-side theories that lower taxes can stimulate growth — like a rising tide that lifts all ships — was derided as "Reaganomics" by critics and even once called "voodoo economics" by the Republican who went on to serve as his vice president and later as president himself, George H. W. Bush. Even today, it is hard for

American Republicans to support any increase in taxes — a Reagan legacy that still makes it difficult for Democrats and Republicans to find common ground on tax legislation. In Britain, Thatcher's policies were dubbed "Economic Thatcherism." "Using deregulation and privatization, she restored Great Britain, once dismissed as the 'sick man of Europe,' to its position as a world power. Indeed, her policies led the way and inspired other nations — including those in newly free Eastern Europe — to adopt similar reforms to boost their economies," Ed Feulner, former president of the conservative Heritage Foundation, wrote Monday in a tribute. "An intrepid warrior for freedom and human dignity, Prime Minister Thatcher stood with her 'noble friend,' President Ronald Reagan, to confront the Soviet empire when it was at its peak," Feulner added. Thatcher's efforts in ad-

vancing conservative causes and programs in Britain may have strengthened Reagan's hand in selling his conservative agenda at home, and vice versa. Conservatives at the time viewed the political victories of the two allies as part of a worldwide trend moving in their direction — a trend that has since run into a lot of bumps in the road. Today's widely held warm and fuzzy image of the Reagan-Thatcher alliance of three decades ago may have been fortified and blurred somewhat by the passage of time. "They were actually very similar, but very different from what many people today think they did," said Bruce Bartlett, an economic adviser to Reagan and Bush. While Thatcher and Reagan were both economic conservatives at heart, "they were also much more pragmatic about what could be done" than many of today's conser-

vatives, Bartlett said. "And they both accepted the legitimacy of the welfare state. They just tried to make it work better and reduce its cost."

While both are known for slashing taxes and cutting spending, Reagan also supported many later tax increases and backed raising the government's borrowing authority many times. Thatcher raised her nation's value-added tax. The two had vastly different governing styles. Reagan projected radiant optimism and cheerful agreeability.

Thatcher, who came to be known as the "Iron Lady," exhibited relentless determination.

And they sometimes disagreed. For instance, Thatcher didn't get the level of support she wanted from Reagan during the Falklands War crisis. And Thatcher was miffed and annoyed by Reagan's 1983 invasion of the tiny Caribbean island nation of Grenada.

Still, "she was a great partner with the United States," said former top State Department official Nicholas Burns, including being the one who persuaded Reagan that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev was "someone we can do business with."

Apparently her warmth with Reagan did not fully convey to Bush, Reagan's successor.

While she fully supported Bush on confronting Saddam Hussein after Iraq's August 1990 invasion of Kuwait, she was a little concerned about his resolve. "So this was the reason I said, 'Look, George, this is no time to go wobbling,'" she later recalled.

The elder Bush issued a statement Monday declaring: "America has lost one of the staunchest allies we have ever known." □

Father sobs after kids buried in collapse

MICHAEL BIESECKER
MITCH WEISS

Associated Press
STANLEY, North Carolina (AP) —

A father tearfully begged authorities to hurry to his house to rescue his daughter and her cousin, who were buried when the walls of a 24-foot (7.3-meter) deep pit he dug on his property collapsed.

The bodies of the two young cousins, 6-year-old Chloe Jade Arwood and 7-year-old James Levi Caldwell, were dug out Monday.

Jordan Arwood, 31, was operating a backhoe Sunday night in the pit when the walls collapsed and he called the emergency dispatcher.

Arwood's desperate voice is heard on a recording released by the Lincoln County communications center on Monday, when the children's bodies were recovered.

"Please hurry ... My children are buried under tons of dirt ... They're buried under tons of clay ... It fell on top of them," he said sobbing. When the dispatcher asked him if he could see the children, Arwood said he couldn't.

"The entire wall collapsed on them. Get a crane. Get a bulldozer. Get anything you can, please," he said. "There's no way they can breathe."

As the dispatcher began encouraging him — and with people wailing in the background — Arwood began praying.

"Lord lift this dirt up off these children ... so the children will be alive and well ... I have to get my kids. Lord, please," he said.

After the bodies were recovered, sheriff's deputies removed firearms and a marijuana plant from Arwood's mobile home. Arwood is a felon who is not allowed to have guns. He was convicted in 2003 for possession of a controlled substance with intent to sell.

The father had been digging with a backhoe on the site Sunday, Sheriff Da-

vid Carpenter said. Investigators described the pit as 20 feet by 20 feet (6 meters by 6 meters) with a sloped entrance leading down to the 24-foot (7.3-meter) bottom. The children were at the bottom of the pit retrieving a child-sized pickaxe when the walls fell in on them, Carpenter said.

The sheriff would not say what Arwood was building or whether he had any professional help. He did say that investigators would be looking into reports from neighbors that Arwood had been building some sort of protective bunker.

He said deputies would be speaking with county planning and zoning officials about any potential building code violations at the site.

Andrew Bryant, a planner with the Lincoln County Planning & Inspections Department, said no permits had been issued.

On the tape, Arwood said he didn't know what happened.

"They were inside the hole helping to get something and the wall collapsed," he said.

At one point, the dispatcher warned him not to put pressure on the dirt. But Arwood said he had to reach the children.

"If this was you and your children in the dirt, you'd be moving the dirt, too," he said.

Arwood's house was at the end of a gravel-covered road dotted with modular and mobile homes. It's a tight-knit rural community where neighbors sit outside on front porches and look out for each other.

When word spread about the disaster, they ran to Arwood's house and began helping. On Monday, they were somber, saying they were heartbroken for the family. They said Arwood told them it happened without warning and that he tried to grab the children, but they were just beyond his reach.

It was no secret that Arwood was digging a two-



A man, left, walks with police investigators Monday, April 8, 2013, around the scene of a collapsed construction site where two children died when the dirt walls collapsed Sunday night on Cedarbrook Court in Stanley, N.C.

Associated Press

story deep hole. Neighbors said it wasn't unusual to see children in the pit when the girl's father was working there.

Neighbor Bradley Jones, who works in construction, said there was no structure to support the pit's tall dirt

walls and that there was some concrete on a ledge on top of the hole.

In recent days, the hole was muddy from the rain. He said he warned his daughter, Chelsea, who babysits for the children, not to go in.

"It was dangerous. There was nothing to reinforce those walls," he said.

Chelsea said Arwood told her that he was building the structure to "protect his family" - it was going to be a bunker.

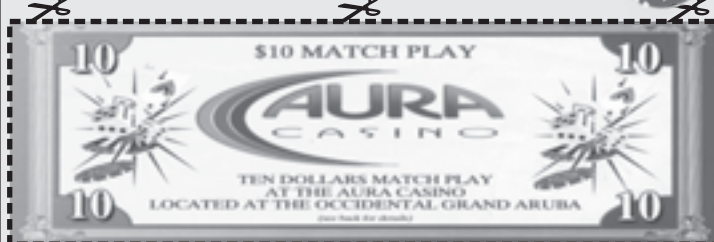
"It's so sad," she said. □

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Prosecutor: Rockefeller impostor a master liar

LINDA DEUTSCH

**AP Special Correspondent
LOS ANGELES (AP)** — A

notorious German-born Rockefeller impostor was depicted Monday by a prosecutor as a master manipulator who "always had a lie in his back pocket to explain things," but slipped up and left clues that he was a killer.

"This isn't a movie, a book, a TV show, a docudrama," Deputy District Attorney Habib Balian said in his closing argument, referring to the fact that the case has been turned into all of those things over the years.

"This case is about two people who lived and died," Balian said.

Defendant Christian Gerhartsreiter, originally from Bavaria, Germany, is charged only with the murder of John Sohus in suburban San Marino, but the prosecutor has been allowed to say he believes Gerhartsreiter also killed Sohus' wife, who remains missing after nearly three decades.

"She's dead," Balian said repeatedly as he described the disappearance of Linda Sohus and her husband, John — newlyweds he said had no reason to vanish.

The bones of John Sohus were unearthed in the backyard of his mother's former house in San Marino a decade after he and his wife disappeared.



Christian Karl Gerhartsreiter enters courtroom at Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center in Los Angeles Wednesday April 3, 2013. The defense and prosecution rested their cases in the murder trial of the notorious Rockefeller impostor Wednesday after his ex-wife called him a consistent liar and "an unpleasant human being." Associated Press

Gerhartsreiter lived as a tenant on the property in 1984 and 1985.

The man who then called himself Chris Chichester vanished around the same time the couple disappeared in 1985, according to witnesses.

As part of his argument, Balian used a Powerpoint presentation that showed pieces of a jigsaw puzzle falling into place.

Balian predicted that the defense would seek to paint Linda Sohus as the murderer of her husband.

"They're going to batter her over and over and say

she was the mastermind," Balian said in his presentation. "But all the evidence in this case is going to point you to the fact that only one person was the mastermind. ... He is charged with murder."

However, defense attorney Jeffrey Denner was less demeaning of Linda Sohus than he was of his own client. He said Gerhartsreiter was a white-collar criminal with a long list of offenses including identity theft and immigration fraud.

"Over a period of time in this country, he committed a lot of crimes with which

he was never charged," Denner said. "It's no wonder he would want to stay under the radar."

But the lawyer said his client had not been running from a murder investigation.

Denner noted that no trace evidence was scientifically connected to the defendant, and he suggested it was more likely that Linda Sohus had a "dark side" of her life that led her to kill her husband. But he offered no evidence to support that contention.

"That's the stuff that reasonable doubt is made of," he told jurors. "You don't know what happened. If you don't know what happened, you can't convict anybody."

Balian noted that Monday was the 28th anniversary of the day Linda and John Sohus were reported missing.

"What do we do with a case 28 years old?" he said, acknowledging there are no eye witnesses or physical evidence in the case.

"Circumstantial evidence is just as powerful," Balian said as he detailed the pieces of his puzzle.

"Not only does he flee, he changes his identity and discontinues contacts with friends. Why? Because he's a murderer," the prosecu-

tor said.

Eventually, Gerhartsreiter turned up on the East Coast using the name Clark Rockefeller and living well at the expense of his wealthy wife.

Gerhartsreiter was previously prosecuted for kidnapping his own daughter and is serving a prison sentence for that crime.

Defense lawyers have suggested that he lived a life of pretense, making up wild stories about royal lineage, but they say he never killed anyone.

Balian reminded jurors of testimony by former friends from San Marino. A woman remembered seeing dirt in his yard where a large hole had been dug. A forensic expert said traces of blood were found on the concrete floor beneath a rug in the guest cottage the defendant occupied.

He also emphasized what was found in the backyard grave along with bones — plastic shopping bags from the University of Southern California and University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, two colleges the defendant attended.

"The case is easy," said Balian.

"The evidence is right in front of your eyes." □

Autopsy: Rick Warren's son died from gunshot wound

MISSION VIEJO, California (AP) — Authorities say autopsy results show that the son of popular megachurch pastor Rick Warren died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Sheriff's spokesman Jim Amormino said Monday that 27-year-old Matthew Warren died on Friday. Amormino says the ruling was also based on evidence found at the scene. To whom the weapon be-



This undated photo provided by the Saddleback Valley Community Church shows Matthew Warren, the son of Pastor Rick Warren. Associated Press

longed to is still unclear. The Warrens said in an email on Saturday that their son struggled with deep depression and suicidal thoughts.

The elder Warren founded Saddleback Church in 1980, and watched it grow to 20,000 members and several campuses.

In 2002, he published the multimillion-selling book "The Purpose Driven Life." □

Sheriff: Florida couple, kidnapped sons in Cuba

TAMPA, Florida (AP) — A Florida couple suspected of kidnapping their two sons from the woman's parents are in Cuba, authorities said Monday.

The Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office received information that the Hakken family had arrived on the island nation, according to a news release. Investigators say they're working with the FBI and the U.S. State Department to verify the reports.

It wasn't immediately clear what, if anything, authorities could do to retrieve the family from Cuba. An email seeking comment from the State Department wasn't immediately returned.

The sheriff's office alleges that Joshua Michael Hak-

ken entered his mother-in-law's house north of Tampa early Wednesday, tied her up and fled with his sons, 4-year-old Cole and 2-year-old Chase.

Federal, state and local authorities had been searching by air and sea for a boat Hakken recently bought.

The truck that Hakken, his wife Sharyn and the boys had been traveling in was found late Thursday, abandoned in a parking garage in Madeira Beach. Authorities say they had been looking up and down the entire Gulf coast from Pensacola to the Keys and the Intracoastal Waterway. An alert for the boys has been issued in Florida, Louisiana and other states. □

Israel honors 6 million victims of Nazi Holocaust

ARON HELLER

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Among the crowds marking Israel's annual Holocaust remembrance day at the Yad Vashem memorial Monday was a retired American Air Force colonel from San Francisco who came to honor a family he never knew.

Bertrand Huchberger was too young to remember his parents, who sent him and his older sister from Paris into the French countryside to escape the Nazi roundups during World War II. For three years he was hidden by Christian rescuers, including a prostitute, before he was put into an orphanage and adopted by American Jews when he was 11 and taken to New York.

Now 75, Huchberger took part in a rite that has become a centerpiece of the Israel's annual memorial day for the 6 million Jews killed in the genocide by reading the names of his dead relatives: his parents, Alexander and Eleanor Noz, and his brother, Albert, who stayed behind in Paris. All were killed.

"It is still settling in. It was just overwhelming. This place is 'terra sancta' (holy ground) for people who have been associated with the Holocaust," said Huchberger, who has only a single photograph to remember his family. "Now I feel that I find myself and my heritage, and it's just uplifting ... it helps build a spiritual bridge to my parents."

The ceremony, known as "Every Person Has a Name," tries to go beyond the incomprehensible numbers to personalize the stories of individuals, families and communities

destroyed during the war. At the Knesset, Israel's parliament, President Shimon Peres, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and other officials also read names of their relatives murdered in the Holocaust.

In an annual ritual, the country came to a standstill at 10 a.m. Monday to honor the victims when sirens wailed for two minutes across the country. Pedestrians stood in place, buses stopped on busy streets and cars pulled over on major highways, their drivers standing on the roads with their heads bowed.

In homes and businesses, people stopped what they were doing to pay homage to the victims of the Nazi genocide, in which a third of world Jewry was annihilated.

A wreath laying ceremony at Yad Vashem followed, with Israeli leaders, Holocaust survivors and visiting U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry in attendance. Other ceremonies, prayers and musical performances took place in schools, community centers and army bases.

The annual remembrance is one of the most solemn on Israel's calendar. Restaurants, cafes and places of entertainment shut down, and radio and TV programming were dedicated almost exclusively to documentaries about the Holocaust, interviews with survivors and somber music. The Israeli flag flew at half-staff.

In parliament, Peres recited the names of his family members killed along with 2,060 members of their community in August 1942 in the town of Vishneva, part of Poland before World War II and now in Belarus. Peres, 89, was

already in Israel.

Nazis and their local collaborators rounded up the Jews and herded them into a wooden synagogue. Peres said his grandfather, a prominent rabbi, wrapped in a prayer shawl, walked at the head of the community into the building. The Nazis then shot at the structure and set it on fire, burning the people inside to death.

This year's commemoration marked 70 years since the Warsaw ghetto uprising, a symbol of Jewish resistance against the Nazis that resonates deeply in Israel to this day.

The uprising was the first large-scale rebellion against the Nazis in Europe and the single greatest act of Jewish resistance during the Holocaust. Though guaranteed to fail, it became a symbol of struggle against impossible conditions and inspired other acts of uprising and underground resistance.

President Barack Obama, who visited Yad Vashem on his trip to Israel last month, said in a statement that the day offered a chance to remember the "beautiful lives lost" and to "pay tribute to all those who resisted the Nazis' heinous acts and all those who survived."

Kerry, at a meeting with Peres later Monday, said the wailing of the sirens in



Participants of the March of the Living walk under the entrance gate to the former Nazi Death Camp Auschwitz Birkenau with the infamous German inscription 'Arbeit Macht Frei', (Work Sets You Free) in Oswiecim, Poland, Monday, April 8, 2013. Jews from Israel and around the world took part in the annual March of the Living on the 3km route from Auschwitz to Birkenau Nazi Death Camps, commemorating the Holocaust victims.

Associated Press

the morning "had a profound impact on me. It was impressive."

At the opening state ceremony Sunday night at Yad Vashem, Israeli leaders linked the desperate Jewish revolt of 1943 to the warrior mentality that enabled the establishment of Israel five years later.

They also tied the Nazi genocide to Iran's suspected drive to acquire nuclear arms and urged the world to stop it.

Iranian leaders have repeatedly denied the scope of the Holocaust while making references to the destruction of Israel.

"The murderous hatred

against the Jews that has accompanied the history of our people has not disappeared, it has just been replaced with a murderous hatred of the Jewish state," Netanyahu said. "What has changed since the Holocaust is our determination and our ability to defend ourselves."

Israel was created just three years after the end of the war, and hundreds of thousands of survivors made their way to Israel.

Today, they are among fewer than 200,000 elderly survivors in Israel, and the mass murder of Jews during World War II is still a central part of Israel's psyche. □

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Japan increasingly nervous about North Korea nukes

ERIC TALMADGE
Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — It's easy to write off North Korea's threats to strike the United States with a nuclear-tipped missile as bluster: it has never demonstrated the capability to deploy a

missile that could reach the Pacific island of Guam, let alone the mainland U.S. But what about Japan? Though it remains a highly unlikely scenario, Japanese officials have long feared that if North Korea ever decides to play its nuclear

card it has not only the means but several potential motives for launching an attack on Tokyo or major U.S. military installations on Japan's main island. And while a conventional missile attack is far more likely, Tokyo is taking North Korea's nuclear rhetoric seriously.

On Monday, amid reports North Korea is preparing a missile launch or another nuclear test, Japanese officials said they have stepped up measures to ensure the nation's safety. Japanese media reported over the weekend that the defense minister has put destroyers with missile interception systems on alert to shoot down any missile or missile debris that appears to be headed for Japanese territory.

"We are doing all we can to protect the safety of our nation," said chief Cabinet spokesman Yoshihide Suga, though he and Ministry of Defense officials refused to confirm the reports about the naval alert, saying they do not want to "show their cards" to North Korea. North Korea, meanwhile, issued a new threat against Japan.

"We once again warn Japan against blindly toeing the U.S. policy," said an editorial Monday in the Rodong Sinmun, the official newspaper of its ruling party. "It will have to pay a dear price for its imprudent behavior."

Following North Korea's third nuclear test in February, Japanese experts have increasingly voiced concerns that North Korea may already be able to hit — or at least target — U.S. bases and major population centers with nuclear warheads loaded onto its medium-range Rodong missiles.

"The threat level has jumped" following the nuclear test, said Narushige Michishita, a former Ministry of Defense official and director of the Security and International Studies Program at Tokyo's National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies.

Unlike North Korea's still-



Japan's chief Cabinet spokesman Yoshihide Suga speaks about North Korea during a regular press conference at the Prime Minister's official residence in Tokyo Monday, April 8, 2013.

Associated Press

under-construction inter-continental ballistic missile, or ICBM, program, its arsenal of about 300 deployed Rodong missiles has been flight tested and is thought to have a range of about 1,300 kilometers (800 miles). That is good enough to reach Tokyo and key U.S. military bases — including Yokota Air Base, which is the headquarters of the U.S. 5th Air Force; Yokosuka Naval Base, where the USS George Washington aircraft carrier and its battle group are home-based; and Misawa Air Base, a key launching point for U.S. F-16 fighters.

Michishita, in an analysis published late last year, said a Rodong missile launched from North Korea would reach Japan within five to 10 minutes and, if aimed at the center of Tokyo, would have a 50-percent probability of falling somewhere within the perimeter of Tokyo's main subway system.

He said Japan would be a particularly tempting target because it is close enough to feasibly reach with a conventionally or nuclear-armed missile, and the persistent animosity and distrust dating back to Japan's colonization of the Korean Peninsula in 1910 provides an ideological motive.

Also, a threat against Japan could be used to drive a wedge between Tokyo and Washington. North Korea could, for example, fire one or more Rodong missiles toward Tokyo but have them fall short to frighten Japan's leaders into making concessions, stay out of a conflict on the peninsula or oppose moves by the U.S. forces in Japan to assist the South Koreans, lest Tokyo suffer a real attack.

"Given North Korea's past adventurism, this scenario is within the range of its rational choices," Michishita wrote.

Officials stress that simply having the ability to launch an attack does not mean it would be a success. They also say North Korea is not known to have actually deployed any nuclear-tipped missiles.

Tokyo and Washington have invested billions of dollars in what is probably the world's most sophisticated ballistic missile defense shield since North Korea sent a long-range Taepodong missile over Japan's main island in 1998. Japan now has its own land- and sea-based interceptors and began launching spy satellites after the "Taepodong shock" to keep its own tabs on military activities inside North Korea. □

Saakashvili breaks shoulder in bike accident

TBILISI, Georgia (AP) — Georgian President Mikhail Saakashvili has a broken shoulder after a bicycle accident in Turkey.

A statement from the presidential administration says the accident occurred Sunday during what it describes as Saakashvili's daily bicycle ride. It said he was treated at a hospital in Istanbul but did not give further details.

Saakashvili was to have met Monday with Turkish President Abdullah Gul, but that meeting has been postponed until Tuesday. □

Bandits rob millions in Italian highway heist

ROME (AP) — Bandits armed with Kalashnikovs stole an estimated €2 million (\$2.6 million) Monday by setting a big-rig truck on fire to block a highway in northern Italy and then blowing open an armored truck, a company official said.

No one was injured in the heist, said Marco Meletti, a spokesman for the Gruppo Battistolli armored transport company.

Meletti told the Italian news agency ANSA that gunmen blocked two armored delivery trucks on a high speed highway that leads toward Switzerland near the town of Saronno. Some news reports put the amount of booty at €10 million (\$13 million) but Meletti denied that figure.

The gang set the rig on fire and used an explosive charge to break into one of the armored vehicles, Italian news reports quoted investigators as saying.

ANSA said the bandits, about 10 of them according to investigators, escaped by car after strewing nails on the road to slow down police. The escape cars were later found abandoned near a farmhouse. □

11 killed in central Nigeria village attacks

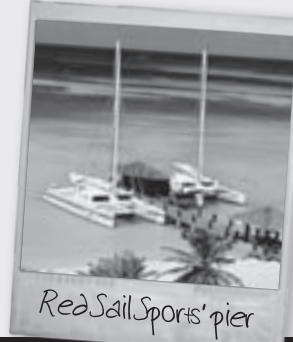
JOS, Nigeria (AP) — Officials in central Nigeria say at least 11 people have been killed in ongoing fighting between Christian and Muslim villagers in the region. The attacks centered around the volatile city of Jos, where thousands have been killed since Nigeria became a democracy in 1999.

In the first attack Saturday, Tarok Christian people living in the Karkashi village say people from a neighboring Muslim Hausa-Fulani village raided their homes. Military spokesman Capt. Mustafa Salisu said Sunday that seven people were killed in that attack. □

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Putin faces protest furor in Germany, Netherlands

TOBY STERLING

VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV

Associated Press

AMSTERDAM (AP) — Vladimir Putin faced hundreds of protesters ranging from gay rights activists to a topless feminist group during his visit to Germany and the Netherlands on Monday, but the Russian president appeared unruffled by the furor.

In Hannover, Germany, Chancellor Angela Merkel criticized Russia's human rights record at a press conference. Then activists from Ukraine's Femen group bared their torsos and ran at him shouting "Putin dictator!" before they were detained.

Putin shrugged off the protest later with what appeared to be a comment on the women's breasts and a swipe at Dutch protesters angry over Russian lawmakers' approval of a bill that bans gay "propaganda."

"I hadn't had time to have breakfast, so I would have liked it more if they showed some sausage or pork fat, not the beauties they showed," he said at a press conference in Amsterdam. "Thank God, the gays didn't strip naked here."

In Amsterdam, more than a thousand gay rights activists picketed outside his meeting with Prime Minister Mark Rutte, and rainbow flags around the city flew at half-staff.

Protesters booed and whistled at Putin's arrival at the Amsterdam arm of the Hermitage museum and Amnesty International blanketed the area with satirical signs and police tape proclaiming it a "human rights free zone" during Putin's visit.

The Russian bill makes gay

public events and the dissemination of information about the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community to minors punishable by fines of up to \$16,000. It still requires final approval by Parliament and would have to be signed by Putin to become law. Rutte said he had told Putin during their meeting that for the Dutch,

erlands' largest gay rights organization. "It's not only among the gay community, straight people are also very angry." Mayor Eberhard van der Laan snubbed any meetings with Putin, saying he had "other commitments."

Putin's visit to the Netherlands was intended to showcase growing economic ties between the

was sympathetic to the protesters. "We see Russia as an important trading partner, but Amsterdam has an identity of what I call hyper-diversity... and we very much want to be able to express that, even to our important trading partners," she said in an interview. The trip also kicks off a year of cultural exchanges. Putin and the

ernment just wants to know who funds such groups.

Leading Russian NGOs have pledged to boycott a bill that requires them to register as "foreign agents." Putin has responded by ordering wide-ranging checks of up to 2,000 NGOs across the country. "We aren't trying to put anyone under control, but we want to know



A topless demonstrator with written messages on her back walks towards Russian President Vladimir Putin, left and German Chancellor Angela Merkel, right, during the opening tour at the Hannover Fair in Hannover, Germany, Monday April 8, 2013. Several activists stormed the booth of Volkswagen to demonstrate in presence of the politicians. Associated Press

gay rights are "inextricably linked with human rights." In 2001, the Netherlands became the first country in the world to legalize gay marriage.

Putin deflected the criticism, claiming that gay rights are not abused in Russia. "These people, like others, have all rights and freedoms," he said.

Russia decriminalized homosexuality in 1993, but homophobia remains strong and authorities routinely ban gay pride parades.

Russia's treatment of gays "is clearly very hotly debated," said Philip Tijsma, spokesman for the Neth-

two countries. With \$83 billion in bilateral trade last year, the Netherlands outpaced Germany to become Russia's No. 1 trading partner in Europe and its second biggest partner in the world after China. The leaders Monday announced a deal between Gazprom and Royal Dutch Shell PLC to jointly develop gas fields above the Arctic circle in Siberia — a plan vehemently opposed by Greenpeace.

Amsterdam deputy mayor Andrée van Es said the city appreciates the importance of trade and was glad to host Putin, but it

Netherlands' Queen Beatrix opened an exhibition at the Hermitage dedicated to Peter the Great, the Russian czar who founded St. Petersburg and sought to open up closer ties with Europe. Putin spent the morning with Merkel at an industry fair in Hannover, where she confronted him about Russia's crackdown on nongovernmental organizations. "A lively civil society can only develop if individual organizations can work without fear and worry," Merkel said at a joint news conference with Putin. Putin brushed the issue aside by saying his gov-

how much money, through what channels and for what purpose, is being sent," Putin said.

He said NGOs in Russia had received nearly \$1 billion from abroad.

"Maybe this money, which is quite a bit — a billion — could have been sent to help Cyprus and then it wouldn't have been necessary to fleece unfortunate depositors," Putin commented, referring to the European Union's complicated bailout for the island nation in which Russian depositors are expected to lose significant funds. □

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WHO talks with China on sending bird flu team

GILLIAN WONG
Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — The World Health Organization is talking with the Chinese government about sending international experts to China to help investigate a new bird flu strain that has sickened at least 24 people, killing seven of them.

A 64-year-old retired man in Shanghai became the latest victim of the H7N9 bird flu virus that had previously not been known to infect humans, the city government said Monday. The Shanghai government said the man died Sunday night, a week after first experiencing chills. He sought medical treatment last Wednesday for pneumonia-like conditions. By Sunday morning, his condition worsened, he was out of breath and was admitted to a ward for in-patient treatment. He died hours later. Michael O'Leary, head of WHO's office in China, told reporters in Beijing on Monday that the international health organization had confidence in China's efforts to track and control the outbreak of H7N9 infections, but that growing interest in the virus globally has prompted WHO to consider sending a team. The cases are of "great interest not only in the scientific community but in the world at large," O'Leary said at a joint press conference with China's national health agency. "WHO's responsibility in part is to make sure that we serve as liaison and linkage between China and the rest of the world."

The team would likely include epidemiological,



A health worker wearing protective clothings adjust her goggles at a desk with a sign that reads "Prevention of H7N9 Flu" at a hospital in Shanghai, China, Monday April 8, 2013. The World Health Organization is talking with the Chinese government about sending international experts to China to help investigate a new bird flu strain that has sickened at least 24 people, killing seven of them.
Associated Press

laboratory and communications experts, but the matter was still being discussed by the two sides and it remained unclear if and when such a group would arrive, O'Leary said. Aside from the latest fatality in Shanghai, China reported two more cases of human infection of the H7N9 bird flu virus on Monday, raising the total number of cases to 24 — all in the eastern part of the country. Most of the patients have become severely ill, and seven of them have died, however milder infections may be going undetected.

There could be additional infections, both among animals and humans, in

other regions and authorities have stepped up measures to monitor cases of pneumonia with unexplained causes, said Liang Wannian, director of the Chinese health agency's H7N9 flu prevention and control office.

Liang said Chinese experts also were in the early stages of researching a possible vaccine for the virus, though it might not be needed if the virus remains only sporadically reported and if it does not spread easily among people.

The H7N9 strain previously was known only to infect birds, and officials say they do not know why the virus is infecting humans now. The virus has been detected in

live poultry in several food markets where human cases have been found, leading officials to think people are most likely contracting the virus through direct contact with infected fowl. Authorities have halted live poultry trade in cities where cases have been reported, and slaughtered fowl in markets where the virus has been detected. Further investigations are underway and, for now, there's no evidence the virus is spreading easily between people. However, scientists are watching closely to see if the flu poses a substantial risk to public health or could potentially spark a global pandemic.

In 2003, China allowed WHO to send a five-member team to help investigate an outbreak of the fatal flu-like illness, SARS, after its own experts could not trace the source of the disease. China's response at the time was slow. The government stayed silent for months after the first cases of an unidentified disease were reported, a cover-up that contributed to the spread of the virus to many parts of China and to two dozen other countries, killing hundreds of people. International observers say that over the past decade, China's public health agencies have become increasingly forthcoming with information. □

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Conspiracy theories abound ahead of Venezuela vote

CHRISTOPHER TOOTHAKER
Associated Press
CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Salvadoran mercenaries are plotting with Venezuela's opposition candidate to assassinate interim President Nicolas Maduro. But wait, the plot thickens. Central American agents, along with former U.S. diplomats, are also plotting to kill the opposition candidate, Henrique Capriles. Those are just two of the conspiracy theories that Maduro has put forth ahead of Sunday's election to replace Hugo Chavez. Maduro, who is running as Chavez's hand-picked successor, also says the government has launched an investigation to determine if someone — U.S. agents, he has hinted — inoculated Chavez with the cancer that killed him March 5. Opposition leaders called

the allegation laughable, but government officials insist it's no joke. Such conspiracy theories don't seem all that wild to some Latin Americans who resent decades of U.S. meddling in their affairs. In Venezuela, relations with the U.S. deteriorated after Washington briefly endorsed a coup that toppled Chavez for two days in 2002. Maduro claims his political opponents have hired mercenaries from El Salvador to assassinate him. He has offered no proof, but during a rally Sunday he accused a former aide to Capriles of being the plot's mastermind. bCapriles called the claim "contradictory and ridiculous." He recalled that less than two weeks ago, Maduro claimed that former U.S. diplomats Otto Reich and Roger Noriega were plotting to kill Capriles

with the aide of Central American mercenaries. The U.S. State Department has dismissed the allegations too. Maria Isabel Puerta, a political science professor at the University of Carabobo, said Maduro is spinning conspiracy theories to distract from pressing domestic problems, especially food shortages and chronic electrical blackouts, and shift the blame to government foes. Along with the plots to assassinate both presidential candidates, Maduro says the Salvadoran mercenaries are plotting to infiltrate the state-run power company and sabotage the country's power grid. "It insinuates the transfer of responsibilities to the enemy, even though it seems strange," Puerta said. Maduro's political opponents say the interim



In this photo released by Miraflores Press Office, and taken Wednesday March 27, 2013, back dropped by a picture of the late Hugo Chavez Venezuela's acting President Nicolas Maduro greets supporters during a rally in Margarita Island, Venezuela. Associated Press

president is simply following Chavez's playbook. Throughout his 14-year-old rule, Chavez and his allies frequently warned that government foes were plotting to kill him, topple his government or desta-

bilize the country. Miguel Perez Pirela, the host of a program on state television, claimed last year that a newspaper crossword puzzle had a hidden call to kill Chavez's older brother, Adan. □

Former rebel leader seeks Suriname presidency

BERT WILKINSON
Associated Press
GEORGETOWN, Guyana (AP) — An influential parliamentarian in Suriname who was a former rebel leader who led the "Jungle Commando" insurgency has announced he wants to run for president during the 2015 elections in the South American nation. Ronnie Brunswijk is a member of Mega Combination coalition that put Desi Bouterse in power in 2010. At the time, Brunswijk's support of Bouterse was a surprise since they were once bitter enemies. Brunswijk grabbed the microphone during a Saturday night concert by U.S. rapper Rick Ross and told the audience in Suriname's capital of Paramaribo that he wanted to be a candi-

date for president during the next general elections. The parliamentarian was a promoter for the show and threw money to the audience from the stage when announcing his candidacy. Once one of Bouterse's bodyguards, Brunswijk led the rebels in the 1986-1992 Bush War against Bouterse's then-military dictatorship. He set up his Suriname Liberation Army, better known as the Jungle Commando, to win land and other rights for Maroons, descendants of escaped African slaves in the former Dutch colony. Brunswijk is a Maroon. Under a 1992 peace agreement, the rebels turned over their weapons in exchange for jobs and more police powers in the country's interior. After the accord, Brunswijk went into

gold mining and logging and is now considered one of the wealthiest people in Suriname. In 1999, a Dutch court sentenced Bunswijk in absentia to eight years in prison for cocaine trafficking during the war years, but he insists he is innocent and has never been locked up for the conviction. Bouterse was also convicted in absentia of drug trafficking by a court in the Netherlands. He also is accused of executing 15 political opponents in 1982. Bouterse won a majority of the popular vote in 2010 elections due to widespread dissatisfaction with the economy, and he negotiated with Brunswijk's faction and other parties to secure the two-thirds support needed for the presidency. □

SPECIAL

First Course

CAJUN BEEF SALAD
tossed with olives, onions, paprika and chili sauce
SEAFOOD COCKTAIL
with a pink yoghurt cocktail sauce
ESCARGOT A LA CREME
creamy garlic sauce with fresh mushrooms
GARDEN SALAD BOULANGERE
dressed with your choice of dressing

Second Course

SOUP OF THE DAY
home made

Third Course

STEAK DIANE
with sauteed mushrooms tomatoes and herbs
PICCATA MILANAISE
served on a bed of pasta with parmesan
CHICKEN FLORENTINE
baked stuffed with creamed spinach
PLAIN OR STUFFED GROUPER
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Fourth Course

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Margaret Thatcher

Continued from front

For admirers, Thatcher was a savior who rescued Britain from ruin and laid the groundwork for an extraordinary economic renaissance. For critics, she was a heartless tyrant who ushered in an era of greed that kicked the weak out onto the streets and let the rich become filthy rich. "Let us not kid ourselves. She was a very divisive fig-

sighed with relief on her first official visit to Washington, D.C., as prime minister to find that she was relaxed enough to enjoy a glass of whiskey and a half-glass of wine during an embassy lunch, according to official documents.

Like her close friend and political ally Ronald Reagan, Thatcher seemed motivated by an unshak-



In a Thursday Oct.13, 2005 file photo, Queen Elizabeth of Britain is greeted by Margaret Thatcher, right, at the former British Prime Minister Thatcher's 80th birthday party in Central London.

Associated Press

ure," said Bernard Ingham, Thatcher's press secretary for her entire term. "She was a real toughie. She was a patriot with a great love for this country, and she raised the standing of Britain abroad."

Thatcher was the first — and still only — female prime minister in Britain's history. But she often found feminists tiresome.

Her boxy, black handbag became such a recognizable part of her image that her way of dressing down ministers and opponents became known as "handbagging." A grocer's daughter, she rose to the top of Britain's snobbish hierarchy the hard way, and envisioned a classless society that rewarded hard work and determination. She was a trailblazer who at first believed trailblazing impossible: Thatcher told the Liverpool Daily Post in 1974 that she did not think a woman would serve as party leader or prime minister during her lifetime.

But once in power, she never showed an ounce of doubt. Thatcher could be intimidating to those working for her. British diplomats

able belief that free markets would build a better country than reliance on a strong, central government. Another thing she shared with the American president: a tendency to reduce problems to their basics, choose a path, and follow it to the end, no matter what the opposition.

She formed a deep attachment to the man she called "Ronnie" — some spoke of it as a schoolgirl crush. Still, she would not back down when she disagreed with him on important matters, even though the United States was the richer and vastly stronger partner in the so-called "special relationship."

Thatcher was at her brash-est when Britain was challenged. When Argentina's military junta seized the remote Falklands Islands from Britain in 1982, she did not hesitate, even though her senior military advisers said it might not be feasible to reclaim the islands.

She simply would not allow Britain to be pushed around, particularly by military dictators, said Ingham, who recalls the Falklands War as the tensest period



In a file handout image provided by 10 Downing Street, on Monday Nov. 23, 2009, former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, stands next to her portrait painted by artist Richard Stone, at 10 Downing Street in London.

Associated Press

of Thatcher's three terms in power. When diplomacy failed, she dispatched a military task force that accomplished her goal, despite the naysayers.

"That required enormous leadership," Ingham said. "This was a formidable undertaking, this was a risk with a capital R-I-S-K, and she demonstrated her leadership by saying she would give the military their marching orders and let them get on with it."

In deciding on war, Thatcher overruled Foreign Office specialists who warned her about the dangers of striking back. She was infuriated by warnings about the dangers to British citizens in Argentina and the difficulty of getting support from the U.N. Security Council.

"When you are at war you cannot allow the difficulties to dominate your thinking: you have to set out with an iron will to overcome them," she said in her memoir, "Downing Street Years."

"And anyway what was the alternative? That a common or garden dictator should rule over the queen's subjects and prevail by fraud and violence? Not while I was prime minister."

Thatcher's determination to reclaim the islands brought her into conflict with Reagan, who dispatched Secretary of

State Alexander Haig on a shuttle mission to London and Buenos Aires to seek a peaceful solution, even as British warships approached the Falklands.

A private diary kept by U.S. diplomat Jim Rentschler captures Thatcher at this crisis point.

"And here's Maggie, appearing in a flower-dec-



Margaret Thatcher makes a statement to reporters as Denis Thatcher listens, as she leaves No. 10 Downing Street, Westminster in a Wednesday, Nov. 28, 1990 file photo, for Buckingham Palace where she will resign as Prime Minister to Queen Elizabeth II.

Associated Press

orated salon adjoining the small dining room (...) sipping orange juice and sherry," Rentschler wrote. "La Thatcher is really quite fetching in a dark velvet two-piece ensemble with grosgrain piping and a soft hairdo that heightens her blond English coloring." But the niceties faded over the dinner table.

"High color is in her cheeks, a note of rising indignation in her voice, she leans across the polished table and flatly rejects what she calls the 'woolliness' of our secondstage formulation," Rentschler writes.

Needless to say, Haig's peace mission soon collapsed. The relatively quick triumph of British forces revived Thatcher's political fortunes, which had been faltering along with the British economy. She won an overwhelming victory in 1983, tripling her majority in the House of Commons.

She trusted her gut instinct, famously concluding early on that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev represented a clear break in the Soviet tradition of autocratic rulers. She pronounced that the West could "do business" with him, a position that influenced Reagan's vital dealings with Gorbachev in the twilight of the Soviet era.

It was heady stuff for a woman who had little training in foreign affairs when she triumphed over a weak field of indecisive Conservative Party candidates to take over the party leadership in 1975 and ultimately run as the party's candidate for prime minister.

She profited from the enormous crisis facing the Labour Party government led by Harold Wilson and later James Callaghan. Britain was near economic collapse, its currency propped up by the International Monetary Fund, and its once-defiant spirit seemingly broken.

The sagging Labour government had no parliamentary majority after 1977, and the next year it suffered through a "winter of discontent" with widespread strikes disrupting vital public services, including hospital care and even grave digging. The government's effort to hold the line on inflation led to chaos in the streets.

Britain seemed adrift, no longer a credible world power, falling from second- to third-tier status.

It was then, Thatcher wrote in her memoirs, that she came to the unshakable, almost mystical belief that only she could save Britain.

□



Mrs. Juana Rasmijn won Afls. 48.046,-

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ORANJESTAD – Friday afternoon, exactly at 2:50PM, Mrs. Juana Rasmijn yelled at the Progressive game in which she won the beautiful prize of Afls. 48.046,-. On the picture it is shown the happiness at the moment that Mrs. Juana got her cheque from host Supervisor Jubert Willems and Hostess Antoinette Vrolijk.

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Families Wallace and Miller honored at Costa Linda Resort!

EAGLE BEACH - Recently at the Costa Linda Resort, Aruba vacationers were presented with honorary titles created by the Ministry of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guest visiting Aruba for 10 and 20 consecutive years. Special friends of Aruba, enjoying ten or more annual vacations here, are given the Distinguished Visitors certificate and those with twenty consecutive years are awarded the Goodwill Ambassadors certificate. The recent honorings were given by the Aruba Tourism Authority representative Marouska Heyliger at the Costa Linda Resort, which they call their home away from home. The following guests were honored as Distinguished Visitors for the Island of Aruba after coming for more than 10 consecutive years: Joanne and Richard Wallace from Massachusetts, and Denise and Ron Miller from Michigan.

On the picture are the honorees together with Gloria Janga from Costa Linda and ATA rep Marouska Heyliger. ☐



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Palm Beach – As the curtain lifts nightly on the best food-show in town, Amazonia Churrascaria presents a most-extensive salad bar enhanced with new seasonal offerings and continuous dining. The popular Palm Beach restaurant features a parade of gauchos, slicing more than 15 cuts of grilled beef, chicken, lamb, pork & sausage, as well as grilled pineapple. As patrons keep sampling, the gauchos bring out more meats on giant skewers, accompanied by a delicious array of tasty sides, which all

guarantee an unforgettable evening and an exciting culinary adventure. The food show stars some very special people who do their utmost to make sure that guests leave happy, vowing to return, with hostess Julissa Vrolijk among them. She meets and greets all visitors, and is pictured here with the recently promoted Harrison "Junny" Dirks, and Dutch apprentices Amber Noble and Robert Boogaard, who hail from Roc Friesland College in Leewarden, on the island for a three months internship. □

BON DIA *Aruba*

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Caribbean Queen Presents Visual Artist, Art Professor, Marketing Manager, Director of Aruba Art au Plateau Foundation, Desiree Rep-Sporkslede

Palm Beach – The Caribbean Queen store at the Palm Beach Plaza Mall is proud to introduce its Caribbean Queen for April, Visual Artist, Art Professor, Marketing Manager, Director of Aruba Art au Plateau Foundation, Desiree Rep-Sporkslede.

Inspired by Earth Day and the need to instill awareness and appreciation of the earth's environment, April's Caribbean Queen speaks a "green language," wishing to teach it to the rest of the world.

As a collector of all things unwanted and discarded, Desiree is using materials she ferreted away in her home, recycling them and creating new objects, now on display at Caribbean Queen, Palm Beach Plaza Mall.

Her ties to Suriname and the rest of the Caribbean are also sources of inspiration, as well as other relevant contemporary issues. The Caribbean, she says, is no longer isolated; we are citizens of the world and can no longer be regarded as primitive or exotic. Her show at Caribbean Queen is all about communication, meeting and greeting people, and affecting them in a myriad of ways, for example, encouraging them to stop hoarding and allowing discarded things and thoughts to take up so much of their valuable space. She explains that recycling makes a difference in our environment, in the wise use of our natural resources, and in the economic well-being of our countries. Desiree gradu-

ated from the University of Rotterdam in the Netherlands, where she nurtured her artistic abilities in a fine arts program in 1989. Fascinated by the mystical landscape and curious about her own background, she moved to Aruba in 1990. Painting in acrylics and various media and using fragments of environmental waste, Desiree creates symbolic art that traces her diverse cultural heritage. Besides paintings, she also makes installations that are bold using mixed media such as iron and organic materials, including local shrubs. The multicultural aspect of the cities she has lived in, such as The Hague, Rotterdam, and Amsterdam, is very present in her work. She also exchanges ideas and ar-



tistic pursuits with members of the local art community here, including some well-established artists in the fields of photography, literature, poetry, and prose. "It is always challenging," she says, "to express my personal emotions and the miracles in my life, the way it reveals itself in thoughts

and feelings, always beyond my imagination." With dozens of exhibitions and art projects to her credit in Aruba, Curaçao and the Netherlands, Desiree Rep-Sporkslede takes the spotlight again as her collection is featured at Caribbean Queen for the whole month of April. □

Catch your own dinner with Driftwood! *Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: "from the pier to your plate!"*



ORANJESTAD - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fisherman of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad. Driftwood owner Herby

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Driftwood Restaurant. This authentic Aruban seafood restaurant is located in characteristic downtown Oranjestad. Their

extended menu has been jubled by many. Driftwood offers daily specials, as well as a delicious 4-course menu for just \$25.95 **Charter deep sea fishing rates:** \$400 - 1/2 day • \$760 - full day. Rates per boat Max. 6 people. **Driftwood Restaurant** Authentic Aruban Seafood Restaurant; Klipstraat #12, Downtown Oranjestad. Tel: (297) 583 2515 www.driftwoodaruba.com Open hours: every day, from 5pm till 10:30pm. Sunday Closed.



In this March 6, 2013, file photo, Tiger Woods, foreground, putts as Steve Stricker watches on the practice putting green at the Cadillac Golf Championship in Doral, Fla.

Associated Press

Stricker helped Tiger Woods, now needs Masters advice

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

AUGUSTA, Georgia (AP)

— Steve Stricker wouldn't mind if Tiger Woods returned the favor, only it's not that easy.

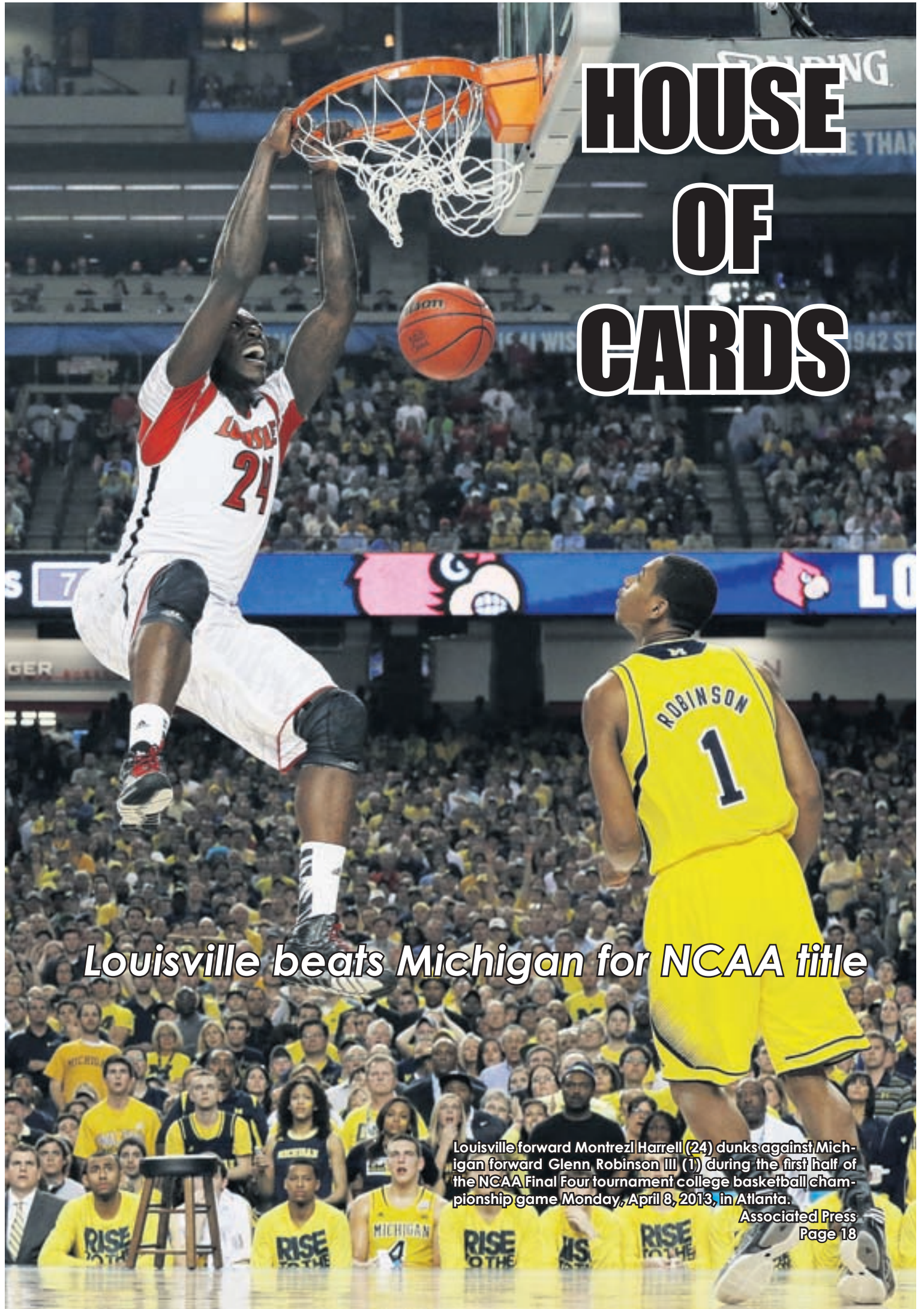
Woods is back to No. 1 in the world, a return to the top that received a boost last month at Doral when Stricker worked with him for nearly an hour on the putting green.

He noticed that Woods needed a slight adjustment in his setup, and when the light came on, Woods seemed to hit warp speed. He won Doral, he won Bay Hill two weeks later and showed up at the Masters as the favorite to win.

Now if only Stricker can get Woods to show him how to win a green jacket.

The Masters is the only major in which Stricker has never been in serious contention. He was runner-up in the PGA Championship at Sahalee. He played in the final group in the British Open at Carnoustie. He was tied for the lead going to the back nine at Oakmont in the U.S. Open.

Continued on Page 20



HOUSE OF CARDS

Louisville beats Michigan for NCAA title

Louisville forward Montrezl Harrell (24) dunks against Michigan forward Glenn Robinson III (1) during the first half of the NCAA Final Four tournament college basketball championship game Monday, April 8, 2013, in Atlanta.

Associated Press
Page 18

Louisville beats Michigan 82-76 for NCAA title

By **PAUL NEWBERRY**

AP National Writer

ATLANTA (AP) -- Rick Pitino capped the greatest week of his life with the prize he wanted most of all.

Luke Hancock produced another huge game off the bench, scoring 22 points, and Pitino became the first coach to win national titles at two schools when relentless Louisville rallied from another 12-point deficit to beat Michigan 82-76 in the NCAA championship game Monday night.

This title came on the same day Pitino was announced as a member of the latest Hall of Fame class, a couple of days after his horse won a big race on the way to the Kentucky Derby, and a few more days after his son got the head coaching job at Minnesota.

This was the best feeling of all. The Cardinals (35-5) lived up to their billing as the top overall seed in the tournament, though they sure had to work for it.

Louisville trailed Wichita State by a dozen in the second half of the national semifinals, before rallying for a 72-68 victory. This time, they fell behind by 12 in the first half, though a stunning spurt at the end of the period wiped out the entire deficit.

For that, they can thank Hancock, named the most outstanding player. He came off the bench to hit four straight 3-pointers after Michigan got a boost from an even more unlikely player, freshman Spike Albrecht. He, too, made four straight from beyond the arc, blowing by his career high before the break with 17 points. Coming in, Albrecht was averaging 1.8 points a game and had not scored more than seven all season.

While Albrecht didn't do much in the second half, Hancock finished what he started for Louisville. He buried another 3 from the corner with 3:20 remaining to give the Cardinals their biggest lead, 76-66. Michigan wouldn't go away, but Hancock wrapped



Michigan guard Trey Burke (3) walks off the court as confetti falls on Louisville players, including Russ Smith (2), Luke Hancock (11), Stephan Van Treese (44) and Zach Price (25), after the NCAA Final Four tournament college basketball championship game, Monday, April 8, 2013, in Atlanta. Louisville won 82-76.

Associated Press

it up by making two free throws with 29 seconds left. While Pitino shrugged off any attempt to make this about him, there was no doubt the Cardinals wanted to win a national title for someone else - injured guard Kevin Ware.

Watching again from his seat at the end of the Louisville bench, his injured right leg propped up on a chair, Ware smiled and slapped hands with his teammates as they celebrated in the closing seconds, the victory coming just 30 miles from where he played his high school ball.

Any pain he was feeling from that gruesome injury in the regional final, when he landed awkwardly, snapped his leg and was left writhing on the floor with the bone sticking through the skin, was long gone as he hobbled gingerly onto the court with the aid of crutches, backing in a sea of confetti and streamers.

Peyton Siva added 18 points for the Cardinals, who closed the season on a 16-game winning streak, and Chane Behanan chipped in with 15 points

and 12 rebounds as Louisville slowly but surely closed out the Wolverines (31-8). Michigan was in the title game for the first time since the Fab Five lost the second of two straight championship games in 1993. Players from that team, including Chris Webber, cheered on the latest group of young stars.

But, like the Fab Five, national player of the year Trey Burke and a squad with three freshman starters came up short in the

last game of the season.

The first half might've been the most entertaining 20 minutes of the entire tournament.

Burke started out on fire for Michigan, hitting his first three shots and scoring seven points to match his output from the semifinal victory over Syracuse, when he made only 1-of-8 shots.

Then, when Burke sidelined most of the first half with two fouls, Albrecht took control. The kid whose

nickname comes from his first pair of baseball spikes showed he's a pretty good hoops player, too, knocking down one 3-pointer after another to send the Wolverines to a double-digit lead.

When Albrecht blew by Tim Henderson with a brilliant hesitation move, Michigan led 33-21 and Louisville was forced to call timeout. The freshman was mobbed on the Michigan bench, like the Wolverines had already won the national title, with one teammate waving a towel in tribute. Not so fast. Not against Louisville.

The Cardinals just kept coming back.

After already pulling off a stunning comeback in the Big East championship game and another against Wichita State, they surged back behind their own ace off the bench.

Hancock made four straight 3-pointers to match Albrecht. Then, trapping the youngster and knocking the ball away, he set up a fast break that ended with Siva flipping up a lob that Montrezl Harrell slammed through for a dunk, capping a stunning 16-3 run in less than 4 minutes that gave the Cardinals their first lead of the night, 37-36.

Glenn Robinson III made two free throws with two seconds left to give Michigan a 38-37 lead at halftime. □

PETA apologizes to Iditarod musher from Alaska

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals has apologized to an Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race musher whose dog died at a checkpoint. PETA last month accused Fairbanks musher Paige Drobny of leaving her dog unattended and said she should be criminally prosecuted.

Drobny dropped a dog at a race checkpoint, where it was cared for by race officials. But snow from a storm covered the dog and it died of asphyxiation. □



In this Tuesday March 5, 2013 file photo, Paige Drobny of Fairbanks, Alaska, tends to her dog team in the Athabaskan village of Nikolai, Alaska, during the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.

Associated Press

Inbee Park runs away with Kraft Nabisco

JOHN NICHOLSON

AP Sports Writer

RANCHO MIRAGE, California (AP) —

Any drama left Sunday at Mission Hills was gone a few minutes after the final group teed off.

Robbing the Kraft Nabisco Championship of another exciting finish, Inbee Park doubled her lead to six strokes over playing partner Lizette Salas on the par-4 opening hole and ran away with her second major title.

Park made a 20-foot birdie putt, showing off a putting touch unmatched in women's golf, and Salas had a messy double bogey for a three-stroke swing.

"That made my day much easier, that's for sure," Park said.

The 2008 U.S. Women's Open winner at Interlachen, Park closed with a 3-under 69 to finish at 15 under, four strokes ahead of fellow South Korean player

So Yeon Ryu.

"It had been a while since I won a major. It feels very special," said the 24-year-old Park, the third straight South Korean major winner and the eighth in a row from Asia.

Park celebrated the victory with the traditional leap into Poppie's Pond.

"It was great," Park said. "That's the pond I've always wanted to jump in and I finally jumped in. It was a little bit chilly, though."

She also jumped from fourth to second in the world with her fifth LPGA Tour title and ninth worldwide win.

"I only have one more spot to go," Park said.

She filled a water bottle in the pond.

"That was for my dad," Park said. "When I see him next week in Hawaii, I'm going to pour it over him. Yeah, that's what he wanted."

She stopped him from mak-

ing the trip from South Korea to California.

"He packed his bags and booked a ticket and everything and he was on his way," Park said. "I called him and, like, said, 'Just don't come.' He was very mad because he really wanted to come. But really it was tough stopping him, but he actually listened to me. ... I stopped him because if he came, I would want to win so bad, but that might be on my mind playing today."

Park was four victories in her last 16 events. She won the LPGA Thailand in February in her season debut when Ariya Jutanugarn closed with a triple bogey to blow a two-stroke lead.

"I've played five tournaments on the LPGA Tour and I've won two of them, which is a very good start," Park said. "It's pressure off me for the rest of the season."



Inbee Park, of South Korea, watches her tee shot on the third hole during the final round of the LPGA Kraft Nabisco Championship golf tournament in Rancho Mirage, Calif. Sunday, April 7, 2013.

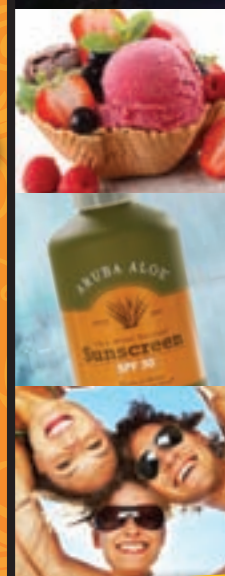
Associated Press

Last year, Park won twice, had six runner-up finishes and topped the money list. She won the Evian Masters in July in France, tied for third in her next start, added three straight second-place finishes and capped the run with a victory in Oc-

tober in the LPGA Malaysia. "I've seen Inbee do this before," top-ranked Stacy Lewis said. "I played with her at Evian last year when she had, I think, 22 or 23 putts in the final round. When she rolls it, you can't beat her."

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CASINO AND SHOPS

Blackhawks clinch playoff spot with win over Preds

The Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Rookie Brandon Saad and Jonathan Toews scored 55 seconds apart midway through the third period as the Chicago Blackhawks rallied to beat the Nashville Predators 5-3 on Sunday night to become the first team to clinch a NHL playoff spot this season.

Chicago (29-5-4) had fallen behind 3-2 early in the third on a goal by David Legwand, but Saad and Toews connected against Pekka Rinne to put the Blackhawks back ahead. The Blackhawks defeated the Predators for the second time in two days and improved to 13-0-1 against Central Division teams. Andrew Shaw and Bryan Bickell also scored for Chicago, and Patrick Kane added an empty-net goal.

Shea Weber and Nick Spaling each had a goal and an assist for the Predators (15-17-8), who are 13th in the Western Conference with 38 points, five behind eighth-place Detroit at the postseason cutoff.

Chicago's Ray Emery stopped 19 shots, following a 20-save, 1-0 win at Nashville on Saturday. The Blackhawks improved to



St. Louis Blues goalie Brian Elliott (1) stops a shot as the puck hits his helmet in the second period of an NHL hockey game against the Detroit Red Wings in Detroit, Sunday April 7, 2013. St. Louis won 1-0. Associated Press

4-0 against the Predators. **SABRES 3, DEVILS 2, SO.** **BUFFALO, New York (AP)** — Nathan Gerbe scored the only goal in the shootout to give Buffalo a victory over New Jersey that extended the Devils' losing streak to seven games.

Ryan Miller stopped 37 shots through overtime, and all three shootout attempts — including a victory-clinching glove save on Travis Zajac. Steve Ott extended his goal streak to three games, and Patrick Kaleta also scored

for Buffalo, which won its third straight. Steve Sullivan and Mark Fayne, who forced overtime with a short-handed goal, scored for the Devils, who are 0-3-4 in their past seven. That is their longest winless streak since going

0-4-2-1 from Nov. 10-23, 2001.

The Devils' loss clinched a playoff spot for the Eastern Conference-leading Pittsburgh Penguins.

New Jersey (15-14-10), 1-5-6 in its past 12 road games, is 6-12-7 following a 9-2-3 start. The Devils haven't won since star forward Ilya Kovalchuk injured a shoulder.

The Sabres (16-17-6) jumped ahead of idle Philadelphia and into 11th place in the East, two points behind the ninth-place Devils.

STARS 5, SHARKS 4, SO **SAN JOSE, California (AP)** — Jamie Benn scored the lone goal in the shootout and Kari Lehtonen stopped all three attempts as Dallas snapped San Jose's seven-game winning streak with a come-from-behind victory.

Alex Chiasson started the rally from a two-goal deficit in the third period when he scored his second goal of the game, and Loui Eriksson tied it for the Stars, who have won two straight following a three-game losing streak. Eric Nystrom also scored, and Lehtonen made 32 saves through overtime for Dallas.

The Stars also erased a 2-0 deficit before falling behind 4-2.

Tommy Wingels, Brent Burns, TJ Galiardi and Marc-Edouard Vlasic scored for the Sharks, who had won the first six games of their seven-game homestand. San Jose failed in its attempt to become the first NHL team to win every game on a homestand of at least seven games, according to STATS.

San Jose's Antti Niemi made 30 saves.

BLUES 1, RED WINGS 0 **DETROIT (AP)** — Brian Elliott made 28 saves for his 19th career shutout and Chris Porter scored the game's only goal in St. Louis' win over Detroit.

Porter scored his second goal of the season off a goalmouth scramble with 3:32 remaining in the second period. Elliott earned his first shutout of the season. □

Stricker helped

Continued from Page 17

For some reason, Augusta National has his number. He tied for sixth in 2009, his best result, though he was never a factor that day.

"I've had a couple decent tournaments here," Stricker said Monday. "For the most part I've struggled here a little bit. I'm starting to feel a little bit more comfortable going around here, but there's still a few things I haven't figured out — or I've gotten in my way a few times here, too. Just not committing to shots, not committing to lines, feeling a little overwhelmed about this place at times, I think.

"So there's been some issues, not only physically, but I think mentally here, as well," he said. "It's a challenging spot and it's a



Tiger Woods catches a ball while hitting on the driving range during a practice round for the Masters golf tournament Monday, April 8, 2013, in Augusta, Ga.

challenging course." Time is not on his side. Stricker began the second chapter in his career in 2006 and since then has won nine times on the PGA Tour, reached as high as No. 2 in the world and has been part of every Ryder Cup and Presidents Cup team. But no major. And no Masters.

Stricker spent last week in the thawing snow of Wisconsin, hitting out of his heated, three-sided trailer at the club, and even taking a few shots from the grass when enough of the snow began to melt. He arrived on Sunday and got in 14 holes of practice with Woods.

"We were talking about

pitching and chip shots and little wedge play," Stricker said. "We were talking about that a lot. I was asking him what he does and what he tries to do, and his action on the way back and on the way through. It's mutual. We try to help out one another every once in a while.

"He's ranked No. 1 now again, and it's fun to bounce some ideas off him here and there."

The Masters means so much to Stricker that he still remembers how he qualified for his first trip to Augusta National in 1996. But if there's a mental block about this place, perhaps because he wants so badly to do well, some of that might be alleviated by this stage of his career.

Stricker decided to go into semi-retirement, with a schedule of no more than about 11 tournaments. □ He has played only four



Ryan Hunter-Reay (1) waves to the fans on the backstretch as he celebrates his win in the IndyCar Series Grand Prix of Alabama auto race in Birmingham, Ala., Sunday, April 7, 2013.

Associated Press

Hunter-Reay holds off Dixon to win at Barber

JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

BIRMINGHAM, Alabama

(AP) — Ryan Hunter-Reay ended Penske Racing's domination at Barber Motorsports Park by holding off New Zealand's Scott Dixon to win the IndyCar Series race on Sunday. Penske drivers Helio Castroneves of Brazil and Australia's Will Power won IndyCar's three previous races at Barber, but Hunter-Reay beat both for the pole.

The defending IndyCar champion ran a steady race, holding strong in one intense battle for position with both Penske drivers, to claim his first win of the season.

Dixon finished second for the fourth consecutive year on the Alabama road course.

"I was dragging my tail off trying to hold off Dixon," Hunter-Reay said.

Castroneves was third and Charlie Kimball was a career-best fourth. Power was fifth.

AJ Allmendinger ran seventh for most of his IndyCar debut but finished 19th after stalling his car during his final pit stop.

It was a huge turnaround for Hunter-Reay, whose previous best finish at Barber was 12th and he opened the season with an 18th-place finish at St. Pete in a race plagued by mechanical problems. But

he left with his 10th career victory, and put the No. 1 car into Victory Lane at an IndyCar race for the first time since Sebastien Bourdais won at Mexico City in 2007.

It left team owner Michael Andretti beaming after two IndyCar wins to open the season, and Carlos Munoz's victory earlier Sunday in the Indy Lights race.

"It was great to get that win with Carlos this morning and for Ryan to come back, they did a great job with strategy," Andretti said. "Just a perfect weekend, when you start on the pole and lead almost all the laps, it's just how to do it."

It wasn't all roses for Andretti, though: James Hinchcliffe, winner of the season-opener at St. Pete for Andretti, never got a chance to contend for a second consecutive victory.

A poor qualifying result put him at the back of the field at the start, where he was stuck in heavy traffic when the green flag waved. As cars jockeyed for position on the first lap, Graham Rahal and Oriol Servia made contact that collected Hinchcliffe and damaged his car. It left him with what he believed to be a tire issue, but the caution period wasn't long enough for IndyCar officials to tow him back to pit lane. □

Knicks win 12th straight, 125-120 over Thunder



Oklahoma City Thunder forward Kevin Durant, left, drives past New York Knicks guard J.R. Smith in the fourth quarter of an NBA basketball game in Oklahoma City, Sunday, April 7, 2013. New York won 125-120.

Associated Press

The Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) —

Carmelo Anthony had 36 points and 12 rebounds, J.R. Smith hit a pair of shot-clock beaters in the final 2 minutes as the New York Knicks beat the Oklahoma City Thunder 125-120 on Sunday for their 12th straight win.

Smith connected on a 23-foot jumper from the right wing as the 24-second clock expired to put New York up 117-113 with 1:30 to play, then swished a 3-pointer from beyond the 3-point line with 56.8 seconds left that all but sealed New York's 50th win of the season.

It's the first time the Knicks have reached the landmark in 13 years.

Russell Westbrook had 37 points, 11 rebounds and eight assists for Oklahoma City, which fell a game behind San Antonio for first place in the West with five games left.

Kevin Durant scored 27, falling behind Anthony in the NBA scoring race.

CLIPPERS 109, LAKERS 95

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Blake Griffin had 24 points and 12 rebounds, and the play-off-bound Clippers beat the Lakers to clinch their first Pacific Division title in franchise history against a team that has long overshadowed them.

Chris Paul added 24 points and 12 assists in helping the Clippers sweep the Lakers 4-0 for the first time since Donald Sterling bought the team in 1981. The 1974-75 team, known as the Buffalo Braves, had the franchise's only other sweep of the Lakers.

Fans chanted, "Sweep! Sweep!" in the closing seconds.

Jamal Crawford had 20 points off the bench, DeAndre Jordan had 13 rebounds and Caron Butler scored 14 points.

Dwight Howard scored 25 points, including 9 of 13 free throws, for the Lakers, who played without injured starters Steve Nash and Metta World Peace. Kobe Bryant added 25

points, 10 assists and seven rebounds, and Pau Gasol had 12 points and 13 rebounds as the Lakers' three-game winning streak ended.

JAZZ 97, WARRIORS 90

OAKLAND, California (AP)

— Mo Williams scored 25 points, Al Jefferson added 19 points and 12 rebounds, and Utah regained the Western Conference's final playoff position by holding off Golden State.

Williams made a 3-pointer with 13.4 seconds remaining to put Utah ahead by six and spoil Golden State's shot to clinch a playoff berth in front of a sell-out crowd of 19,596. The Jazz moved a half-game ahead of the Los Angeles Lakers for the eighth seed. Stephen Curry scored 17 of his 22 points in the first half and Klay Thompson had 20 points for the Warriors, who were trying to clinch a postseason spot for the first time since 2007 and just the second in 19 years.

CELTICS 107, WIZARDS 96

BOSTON (AP) —

Brandon Bass scored 20 points and Boston Celtics, helped by the return of Kevin Garnett and Paul Pierce, beat Washington.

Bass missed his season high by just two points and led the Celtics with eight points in the third quarter, when they hit 75 percent of their shots, outscored Washington 31-19 and stretched a 56-52 halftime lead to 87-71. They led by at least 10 points the rest of the way to get just their fourth win in 12 games.

Garnett had 12 points and six rebounds in 24 minutes after missing eight games with an inflamed left ankle. Pierce finished with 15 points in 30 minutes after missing Friday night's 97-91 loss to the Cleveland Cavaliers with a sore left ankle.

PISTONS 99, BULLS 85

AUBURN HILLS, Michigan

(AP) — Brandon Knight scored 20 points to help Detroit snap an 18-game losing streak against Chicago. □

Dengue cases may be 4 times more common than known



A mosquito (species unidentified) is held by tweezers in this file photo dated Wednesday, June 20, 2001, in Portland, Maine, USA.

MARIA CHENG
AP Medical Writer

LONDON (AP) — There may be nearly four times as many people infected with the tropical disease dengue globally than was previously believed, according to a new study. The World Health Organization has estimated there are about 50 million to 100 million cases of dengue, also known as "break-bone fever," every year. But new research puts the number at around 390 million — though about two-thirds of those people have only mild illness and don't need medical attention. The study was published online Sunday in the journal *Nature*. The data won't change how patients are handled but could prompt a speedier search for a vaccine for the mosquito-borne disease. The study was funded by the Wellcome Trust, the

U.S. Department of Homeland Security and others. WHO said it wasn't surprised by the higher estimates. "We fully agree the spectrum of dengue is very wide and there was every chance we were missing cases," said Raman Velayudhan, the agency's global dengue coordinator. WHO was not involved in the new research. "The new numbers are not out of the realm of what was expected," said Jeremy Farrar, director of the Oxford University Clinical Research Unit in Vietnam, one of the study authors. He said the figures came from analyzing more evidence than was used in the past and included other factors that influence dengue. Dengue causes symptoms including fever and severe joint pains. The disease mostly affects people in Asia, Africa and Latin

America though it has also recently popped up in parts of Western Europe and the U.S. There are four kinds of dengue and catching it once doesn't ensure immunity; subsequent infections raise the risk of severe dengue and may include hemorrhaging. The death rate is usually below 1 percent if patients get treated quickly, but can rise to 10 percent if not. Clarence Tam, an infectious diseases expert at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, said more research was needed on the significance of the nearly 300 million people who have mild dengue. "Whether these cases are an important source of dengue infection for others is not well known," he said. "But there is clearly more dengue in the world than we thought." □

Associated Press

U.S. approves return of drug for morning

LAURAN NEERGAARD

AP Medical Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — A treatment pulled off the market 30 years ago has won Food and Drug Administration approval as the only drug specifically designated to treat morning sickness. That long-ago safety scare proved to be a big false alarm. Monday's decision means a new version of the pill once named Bendectin will return to U.S. pharmacies — this time called Di-

clegis (dye-KLEE'-gihs). U.S. doctors have had no officially approved treatment for morning sickness since lawsuits forced Bendectin off the market in 1983. But the drug's main ingredients are vitamin B6 and an over-the-counter antihistamine, and obstetricians often advised pregnant women how to mix up the right dose themselves. Diclegis is made by a Canadian company that has long sold the medication in that country, and plans to begin U.S. sales in June. □

Hospital group says 'alarm fatigue' can be deadly

LINDSEY TANNER

AP Medical Writer
CHICAGO (AP) — Constantly beeping alarms in hospitals are being linked to patient deaths and other dangers in a new alert from the Joint Commission. The alarms can lead to "noise fatigue," and doctors and nurses sometimes inadvertently ignore the sounds when there's a real patient emergency, possibly resulting in treatment delays that endanger patients. That's according to the alert issued Monday by the Joint Commission hospital

accrediting group. The group says a government database lists more than 500 deaths potentially linked with hospital alarms in recent years. The commission says hospital leaders need to address the problem and train staffers in safe alarm management. The Joint Commission accredits more than 10,000 U.S. hospital and health care organizations. Hospitals covet accreditation and following commission advice is key to maintaining it. □

Many young U.S. women live with men 1st, marry later

MIKE STOBBE

AP Medical Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — Nearly half of young U.S. women say the first time they lived with a guy, they weren't married. That's the finding of a government survey released Thursday. The results are a marked change from 1995, when only 34 percent said they moved in together. Now it's 48 percent. Back then, 39 percent said they mar-

ried first, compared to 23 now. Experts say the numbers show living together is increasingly used as a testing ground for marriage. About 40 percent of the women who lived with a guy went on to marry him within 3 years. The survey by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention questioned more than 12,000 women younger than 45 from 2006 to 2010. □

Broadcasters worry about 'Zero TV' homes

RYAN NAKASHIMA

AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Some people have had it with TV. They've had enough of the 100-plus channel universe. They don't like timing their lives around network show schedules. They're tired of \$100-plus monthly bills.

A growing number of them have stopped paying for cable and satellite TV service, and don't even use an antenna to get free signals over the air. These people are watching shows and movies on the Internet, sometimes via cellphone connections. Last month, the Nielsen Co. started labeling people in this group "Zero TV" households, because they fall outside the traditional definition of a TV home. There are 5 million of these residences in the U.S., up from 2 million in 2007.

Winning back the Zero TV crowd will be one of the many issues broadcasters discuss at their national meeting, called the NAB Show, taking place this week in Las Vegas.

While show creators and networks make money from this group's viewing habits through deals with online video providers and from advertising on their own websites and apps, broadcasters only get paid when they relay such programming in traditional ways. Unless broadcasters can adapt to modern platforms, their revenue from Zero TV viewers will be zero. "Getting broadcast programming on all the gizmos and gadgets — like tablets, the backseats of cars, and laptops — is hugely important," says Dennis Wharton, a spokesman for the National Association of Broadcasters.

Although Wharton says more than 130 TV stations in the U.S. are broadcasting live TV signals to mobile devices, few people have the tools to receive them. Most cellphones require an add-on device known as a dongle, but these gadgets are just starting to be sold. Among this elusive group of consumers is Jeremy Carsen Young, a graphic

designer, who is done with traditional TV. Young has a working antenna sitting unplugged on his back porch in Roanoke, Virginia, and he refuses to put it on the roof.

"I don't think we'd use it enough to justify having a big eyesore on the house," the 30-year-old says.

Online video subscriptions from Netflix Inc. and Amazon.com Inc. — which cost less than \$15 a month combined — have given him and his partner plenty to watch. They take in back episodes of AMC's "The Walking Dead" and The CW's "Supernatural," and they don't need more, he says. He doesn't mind waiting as long as a year for the current season's episodes to appear on streaming services, even if his friends accidentally blurt out spoilers in the meantime. With regular television, he might have missed the latest developments, anyway.

"By the time it gets to me to watch, I've kind of forgotten about that," he says.

For the first time, TV ratings giant Nielsen took a close look at this category of viewer in its quarterly video report released in March. It plans to measure their viewing of new TV shows starting this fall, with an eye toward incorporating the results in the formula used to calculate ad rates.

"Our commitment is to being able to measure the content wherever it is," says Dounia Turrill, Nielsen's senior vice president of insights. The Zero TV segment is increasingly important, because the number of people signing up for traditional TV service has slowed to a standstill in the U.S. Last year, the cable, satellite and telecoms providers added just 46,000 video customers collectively, according to research firm SNL Kagan. That's tiny when compared to the 974,000 new households created last year. While it's still 100.4 million homes, or 84.7 percent of all households, it's down from the peak of 87.3 percent in early 2010.

Nielsen's study suggests

that this new group may have left traditional TV for good. While three-quarters actually have a physical TV set, only 18 percent are interested in hooking it up through a traditional pay TV subscription.

Zero TVers tend to be younger, single and without children. Turrill says part of the new monitoring regime is meant to help determine whether they'll change their behavior over time. "As these homes change life stage, what will happen to them?"

Cynthia Phelps, a 43-year-old maker of mental health apps in San Antonio, Texas, says there's nothing that will bring her back to traditional TV. She's watched TV in the past, of course, but for most of the last 10 years she's done without it. She finds a lot of programs online to watch on her laptop for free — like the TED talks educational series — and every few months she gets together with friends to watch older TV shows on DVD, usually "something totally geeky," like NBC's "Chuck." The 24-hour news channels make her anxious or depressed, and buzz about the latest hot TV shows like "Mad Men" doesn't make her feel like she's missing out. She didn't know who the Kardashian family was until she looked them up a few years ago.

"I feel absolutely no social pressure to keep up with the Joneses in that respect," she says.

For Phelps, it's less about saving money than choice. She says she'd rather spend her time productively and not get "sucked into" shows she'll regret later. "I don't want someone else dictating the media I get every day," she says. "I want to be in charge of it. When I have a TV, I'm less in control of that."

The TV industry has a host of buzz words to describe these non-traditionalist viewers. There are "cord-cutters," who stop paying for TV completely, and make do with online video and sometimes an antenna. There are "cord-



This undated image provided by James Weitze shows a truck driver taking a self portrait on the road. Weitze satisfies his video fix with an iPhone. **Associated Press**

shavers," who reduce the number of channels they subscribe to, or the number of rooms pay TV is in, to save money.

Then there are the "cord-nevers," young people who move out on their own and never set up a land-line phone connection or a TV subscription. They usu-

ally make do with a broadband Internet connection, a computer, a cellphone and possibly a TV set that is not hooked up the traditional way.

That's the label given to the group by Richard Schneider, the president and founder of the online retailer Antennas Direct. □

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United Airlines puts 787s in schedule for May 31

CHICAGO (AP) — United Airlines is putting the grounded Boeing 787 back in its flight schedule, even though the plane is still grounded by government authorities. United acknowledged on Monday that the plane is in its schedule starting May 31. Travel website Jaunted.com noted a 787 flight from Houston to Denver that day. United Continental Holdings Inc. spokeswoman Christen David says the airline will make more schedule changes as it gets a better idea of when the plane will be cleared to fly. It's planning to resume international 787 flying June 10, from Denver to Tokyo. Boeing Co. has proposed a fix for the 787's smoldering batteries, but it needs approval from the Federal Aviation Administration. The fix will then have to be installed on each plane. United owns six 787s. □

IMF reaches agreement with Jamaica

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — The International Monetary Fund says debt-swamped Jamaica could receive up to \$958 million in a four-year package. The IMF says it will recommend this new program to its executive board, which should consider approving it at a meeting later this month. In a Monday statement, the IMF says Jamaica has successfully met mandated prior actions. It says the success of a new deal depends on strengthening public finances, approving a set of reforms, and debt sustainability. Overall, Jamaica's debt is over 140 percent of gross domestic product. Roughly 55 percent of government spending goes to paying it. In February, Jamaica launched a debt-swap program to satisfy conditions to forge a new pact with the IMF and halt what the prime minister described as an economic crisis. □



Senate confirms White to head SEC

MARCY GORDON
AP Business Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Senate has confirmed Mary Jo White's nomination as chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, making her the first former prosecutor to lead the federal agency that oversees Wall Street. White was approved Monday by a Senate voice vote. She will replace Elisse Walter, who has been interim SEC chairman since Mary Schapiro resigned in December. President Barack Obama nominated White, who had served as U.S. attorney in Manhattan from 1993 through 2002.

Critics have complained that the SEC has failed to act aggressively to charge top executives at the biggest U.S. banks who may have contributed to the crisis that set off the Great Recession. White told the Senate Banking Committee last month that she would aggressively pursue enforcement and hold accountable "all wrongdoers — individual and institutional, of whatever position or size."

As SEC chairman, she will also lead efforts to complete and enforce complex regulations called for by Congress in response to the 2008 financial crisis. White, 65, was the first woman to be named U.S. attorney in Manhattan, one of the most prestigious jobs in law enforcement. During her tenure, she built an extensive record of prosecuting white-collar crime, won convictions in the 1993 World Trade Center bombing and the 1998



In this Thursday, Jan. 24, 2013, file photo, Mary Jo White stands by as President Barack Obama announces in the State Dining Room of the White House that he will nominate White to lead the Security and Exchange Commission in Washington.

Associated Press

terrorist attacks on two U.S. embassies in Africa, and put crime boss John Gotti away. She left the U.S. attorney's office in 2002 and went to work for Debevoise & Plimpton, where she served as head of litigation for the prominent New York law firm. Her clients included JPMorgan Chase, Microsoft, General Electric and Toyota, and former Bank of America CEO Ken Lewis. During her confirmation hearing, White pledged to avoid potential conflicts of interest from that work. She

also promised in writing to step aside as SEC chairman from any decision affecting a former client for one year after she represented them. That's in line with federal ethics guidelines for agency officials. The same pledge has been made by a number of SEC chairmen, many of whom were formerly private securities lawyers. The SEC chairman and commissioners must vote to approve enforcement actions against specific companies or individuals as well as new rules that apply generally. □

Ericsson to buy Microsoft's TV software unit

NEW YORK (AP) — Ericsson, the Swedish maker of telecommunications equipment, has agreed to buy Microsoft's Mediaroom business, which makes the software that powers AT&T's U-Verse TV service, the companies said Monday. Neither company said how much Ericsson is paying. Mediaroom gives phone

companies a way to provide cable-like TV services over phone lines. It's used in 22 million set-top boxes in 11 million households, Microsoft said. U-Verse accounts for about 4.5 million of those homes. It's also used by Deutsche Telekom of Germany and by Telus Communications of Canada. Microsoft Corp., which-based in Redmond, Wash-

ington, said it's focusing its resources on making its Xbox service a delivery vehicle for entertainment to game consoles, phones, PCs and tablets. Ericsson said the Mediaroom business complements its portfolio of TV products. The business employs more than 400 people and is based in Mountain View, California. □

JC Penney ousts CEO Ron Johnson

ANNE D'INNOCENZIO

AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — J.C. Penney's board of directors has ousted CEO Ron Johnson after only 16 months on the job as a risky turnaround strategy backfired and led to massive losses and steep sales drops. Penney said late Monday in a statement that it has rehired Johnson's predecessor, Mike Ullman, 66, who was CEO of the department store chain for seven years until November 2011.

The announcement comes as a growing chorus of critics including a former Penney CEO, Allen Questrom, called for Johnson's resignation as they lost faith in an aggressive overhaul plan that included getting rid of most discounts in favor of everyday low prices and bringing in new brands.

The biggest blow came last week from Johnson's strongest supporter, activist investor and board member, Bill Ackman, who had pushed the board in the summer of 2011 to hire Johnson to shake up the dowdy image of the retailer. He reportedly told investors on Friday that Penney's execution "has been something very close to a disaster."

On Saturday, Ullman received a phone call from Penney's chairman Thom-



In this Oct. 23, 2009 photo, Mike Ullman, Chairman and CEO of J.C. Penney Company, Inc., visits a company store in New York.

Associated Press

as Engibous asking him to take back his old job, according to Penney spokeswoman Kate Coultas.

Neither Johnson nor Ullman were available for an interview.

Until early last week, some analysts thought the board would give the former Apple Inc.

and Target Corp. executive until later this year to reverse the sales slide. Johnson was in the midst of rolling out shops devoted to brands like Joe Fresh and home furnishings designer Jonathan Adler. The new shops, which started

opening last year, had been faring better than the rest of the store.

"I truly believed that he had until holiday 2013," said Brian Sozzi, CEO and chief equities strategist Belus Capital Advisers. "Today's announcement is an indictment of his strategy." Johnson's removal marks a dramatic fall for the executive who came to Penney with much fanfare.

There were lofty expectations for the man who made Apple's stores cool places to shop, and before that, pioneered Target's successful "cheap

chic" strategy by bringing in products by people such as home furnishings designer Michael Graves at discount-store prices.

Few questioned Johnson's savvy when it was announced in June 2011 that he was leaving his role as Apple's senior vice president of retail to take over the top job at Penney, a chain that had gained a reputation in recent years of having boring stores and merchandise.

Penney's stock price Monday evening showed investors' frustration with Johnson. When news began

to leak after the market closed that Penney was ousting Johnson, the stock, which had closed at \$15.87 in the regular session, climbed nearly 13 percent to \$17.88 in after-hours trading. But as pleased as investors were about getting rid of Johnson, they didn't appear impressed with his replacement. After Penney announced Ullman would take over, the stock reversed course falling as far as 11 percent from its regular closing price, to \$14.10 and 21 percent from its after-hours high. Under Ullman, the chain brought in some new brands such as beauty company Sephora and exclusive names like MNG by Mango, a European clothing brand, but he didn't do much to transform the store's stodgy image or to attract new customers.

He's expected to serve mostly as a stabilizing force, not someone who will make changes that will completely turn the company around.

"What they need is a little bit of stability and essentially adult supervision," said Craig Johnson, president of Customer Growth Partners, a retail consultancy. "(Ullman) did nip and tuck surgery," said Craig Johnson, president of Customer Growth Partners, a retail consultancy. □

Stocks rise ahead of earnings season

STEVE ROTHWELL

AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks ended modestly higher Monday, shrugging off an early decline, as investors waited to see whether big U.S. companies would deliver on expectations of strong earnings in 2013.

Alcoa became the first major U.S. company to report earnings late Monday, and the results were mostly

good. Aluminum maker's income was higher than analysts were expecting, but its revenue fell slightly short of expectations. Later this week the pace picks up with reports from Bed Bath & Beyond, Wells Fargo and JPMorgan Chase.

A big factor driving the Standard & Poor's 500 up 9.6 percent this year has been optimism that it will be a good year for com-

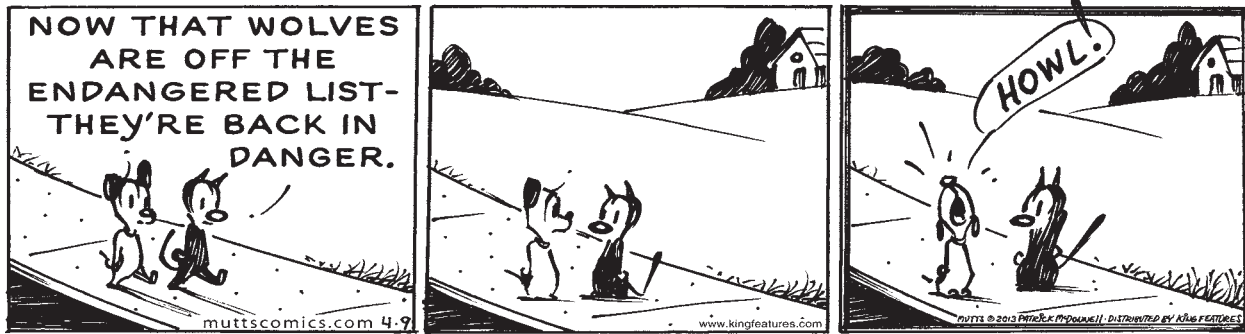
pany profits. While the expectations for the first quarter are relatively modest, many investors are expecting to see more of a pickup in earnings later in the year. "We need to see some earnings growth here to justify the big gains we've seen in the first quarter," said Ryan Detrick, a senior technical analyst at Schaeffer's Investment Research. □



In this Thursday, April 4, 2013, file photo, trader Luigi Muccitelli, right, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Thursday, April 4, 2013. Asian stock markets were mixed Monday April 8, 2013 amid concerns about tensions on the Korean Peninsula and bird flu in China, but European stocks rose as traders looked ahead to corporate earnings season in the U.S.

Associated Press

Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			5	7				
	3	9				4	5	
	2		3	6		8		
9		8				2		1
				1				
3		2				6		7
	7		2	5		6		
	8	4				5	1	
			1	4				

Difficulty Level ★★

4/09

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

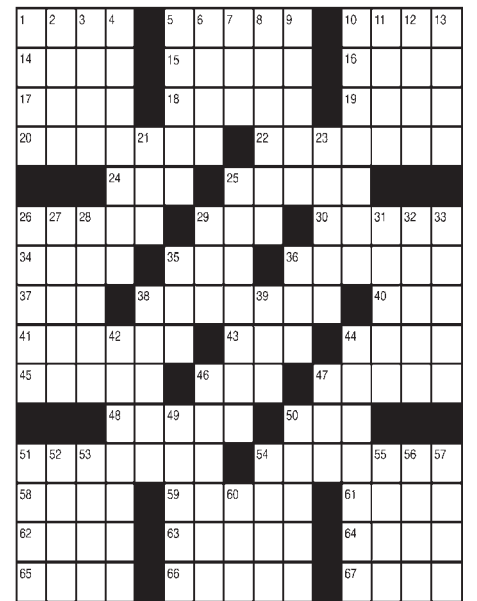
5	4	3	8	9	7	6	2	1
8	1	6	2	4	5	9	3	7
9	2	7	3	6	1	4	5	8
1	6	5	4	8	2	7	9	3
3	9	8	7	5	6	1	4	2
2	7	4	9	1	3	5	8	6
4	3	2	6	7	9	8	1	5
6	5	9	1	3	8	2	7	4
7	8	1	5	2	4	3	6	9

ACROSS

- Police spray
- Begin
- Arrived
- Frown _; show one's disapproval of
- Actress Laurie
- Plow animals
- Examination
- Nervous
- Oaf
- Vanilla _; item in a pie recipe
- Shuns
- Female sheep
- Up _ now; thus far
- Sandbank
- Crawling bug
- College officials
- Final
- Spring month; abbr.
- Carter's successor
- Major network
- Athletic shoe
- Recline
- Slanted; unfair
- Make angry
- Bird of peace
- Scatter about
- Fellows
- Crouch in fear
- Neighbor of India
- Buddy
- Intertwined
- Wooded areas
- Gray wolf
- Rustic home
- Hoodwink
- Addict
- Improve
- Egg on
- Ruby & scarlet
- Requires
- _ the way; pioneer

DOWN

- Remote control button
- Highest point
- Expense
- Beg
- Elbow room



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

4/9/13

Monday's Puzzle Solved

ALE	COALA	NOSE
SUMS	ISLES	UGLY
ACME	SCANS	TREE
KATHMANDU	MEWS	
TIER	MAE	
SCULPT	SMIDGENS	
LANES	STAND	LOP
ADDS	THING	LEVI
BEE	LOANS	NICER
STRAIGHT	HUSTLE	
LEE	FELT	
GLIB	THRILLING	
LOBE	HAILE	NEAT
EVER	ELLEN	GALE
NEXT	REEDS	RAN

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4/9/13

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 42 Over-65 group | 52 Late Kennedy matriarch |
| 44 Sad | 53 Not up yet |
| 46 Wife's title in France | 54 Locate |
| 47 Automobile | 55 Tender to the touch |
| 49 _ pie; nut-topped favorite | 56 Old forum robe |
| 50 Small lakes | 57 Toboggan |
| 51 Make indistinct | 60 Stinging insect |

Capsizing ends trans-Atlantic rowing attempt

DAVID McFADDEN
Associated Press

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — Two Canadians and two Americans attempting to set a world record for an unassisted, human-powered row across the Atlantic Ocean have been rescued after a rogue wave capsized their boat after 73 days at sea, the U.S. Coast Guard and organizers said Sunday.

The four endurance rowers, including Canadian Olympic gold medalist Adam Kreek, were rescued from waters some 400 miles (645 kilometers) north of the U.S. Caribbean island of Puerto Rico. They were attempting to row more than 4,000 miles (6,700 kilometers) between the West African nation of Senegal and Miami and set a Guinness World Record.

But after weeks of battling rough weather, a couple of shattered oars and various technological headaches, the adventurers were forced to take to a life raft early Saturday after their 29-foot (9-meter) ocean rowboat "James Robert Hanssen" overturned and could not be righted. They donned life jackets and set off a personal locator beacon.

Coast Guard crews located the men a few hours after getting a distress signal on Saturday morning and an 800-foot (244-meter) cargo ship later picked up the rowers. They were all in good health and were heading for Puerto Rico on the Panamanian-flagged "Heijin" cargo ship on Sunday.

"For just about the entire trip, except for about eight days, the weather and conditions did not match up with the expected models and predictions. So it was a bit of a slog for a good portion of the whole trip," said Greg Spooner, land operations chief for Seattle-based OAR Northwest, which organized the trans-Atlantic attempt sponsored by the Canadian Wildlife Federation.

Even so, Spooner said, the rowers reported that the last week had progressed relatively smoothly, so it was a shock when he was notified by the Coast Guard that their boat had overturned and the four had been rescued.q

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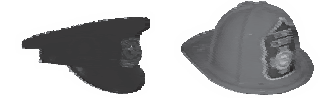
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A shocking (and hot!) tip for preserving produce

W. WAYT GIBBS, Associated Press

Nothing is more frustrating than finding the perfect cucumber or head of lettuce at the farmers market, paying top-dollar for it, and then... tossing it out a week later when it has gone moldy or slimy in the refrigerator.

No doubt one reason so many of us eat too many convenience foods and too few fruits and vegetables is that it can be hard to get our busy schedules in sync with the produce we bring home with the best of intentions.

Food scientists, however, have discovered a remarkably effective way to extend the life of fresh-cut fruits and vegetables by days or even a week. It doesn't involve the chlorine solutions, irradiation or peroxide baths sometimes used by produce packagers. And it's easily done in any home by anyone.

This method, called heat-shocking, is 100 percent organic and uses just one ingredient that every cook has handy — hot water.

You may already be familiar with a related technique called blanching, a cooking method in which food is briefly dunked in boiling or very hot water. Blanching can extend the shelf life of broccoli and other plant foods, and it effectively reduces contamination by germs on the surface of the food. But blanching usually ruptures the cell walls of plants, causing color and nutrients to leach out. It also robs delicate produce of its raw taste.

Heat-shocking works differently. When the water is warm but not scalding — temperatures ranging from 105 F to 140 F (about 40 C



This undated publicity photo illustration shows a strawberry dropped into warm water as it is heat-shocked. Food scientists have discovered a remarkably effective way to extend the life of fresh-cut fruits and vegetables by days or even a week. NYL-S362Associated Press.

HEAT-SHOCKING GUIDELINES

The optimal time and temperature for heat-shocking fruits and vegetables varies in response to many factors — in particular, whether they were already treated before purchase. Use these as general guidelines.

- Asparagus: 2 to 3 minutes at 131 F (55 C)
- Broccoli: 7 to 8 minutes at 117 F (47 C)
- Cantaloupe (whole): 60 minutes at 122 F (50 C)
- Celery: 90 seconds at 122 F (50 C)
- Grapes: 8 minutes at 113 F (45 C)
- Kiwi fruit: 15 to 20 minutes at 104 F (40 C)
- Lettuce: 1 to 2 minutes at 122 F (50 C)
- Oranges (whole): 40 to 45 minutes at 113 F (45 C)
- Peaches (whole): 40 minutes at 104 F (40 C)

A long list of scientific studies published during the past 15 years report success using heat-shocking to firm potatoes, tomatoes, carrots, and strawberries; to preserve the color of asparagus, broccoli, green beans, kiwi fruits, celery, and lettuce; to fend off overripe flavors in cantaloupe and other melons; and to generally add to the longevity of grapes, plums, bean sprouts and peaches, among others.

The optimum time and temperature combination for the quick dip seems to depend on many factors, but the procedure is quite simple. Just let the water run from your tap until it gets hot, then fill a large pot of water about two-thirds full, and use a thermometer to measure the temperature. It will probably be between 105 F and 140 F; if not, a few minutes on the stove should do the trick. Submerge the produce and hold it there for several minutes (the hotter the water, the less time is needed), then drain, dry and refrigerate as you nor-

mally would.

Researchers still are working out the details of how heat-shocking works, but it appears to change the food in several ways at once. Many of the fruits and vegetables you bring home from the store are still alive and respiring; the quick heat treatment tends to slow the rate at which they respire and produce ethylene, a gas that plays a crucial role in the ripening of many kinds of produce. In leafy greens, the shock of the hot water also seems to turn down production of enzymes that cause browning around wounded leaves, and to turn up the production of heat-shock proteins, which can have preservative effects.

For the home cook, the inner workings don't really matter. The bottom line is that soaking your produce in hot water for a few minutes after you unpack it makes it cheaper and more nutritious because more fruits and veggies will end up in your family rather than in the trash. □

Hermit crab species found alive for first time

By Douglas Main

A recent submarine dive turned up a species of hermit crab that was previously only known through dead, dried specimens procured more than a century ago.

The sub collected a few of the animals, known as *Pylopagurus discoidalis*, from the Caribbean and brought them back to an aquarium, where they were photographed. These are the first pictures of the live animals ever taken, said Rafael Lemaitre, a research zoologist at the Smithsonian Institute's National Museum of Natural History.

Like other hermit crabs, these make their living in shells produced by other animals, mainly mollusks, Lemaitre told OurAmazingPlanet in an email. They must choose carefully, however, to find a shell that

fits their tube-shaped body. The most striking feature of the animal is its chelae, a shield-shaped appendage that allows it to firmly seal its shell when alarmed, Lemaitre said. The other end of the shell can also be sealed by the hermit crab with the tail-like end of its body.

The animals were collected at a depth of 50 to 100 meters (164 to 328 feet) by a craft called the Curasub, just off the coast of the Caribbean island of Curaçao. It was found as part of the Smithsonian's Deep Reef Observation Project, which provides "an extraordinary and unique opportunity for taxonomists like me to make direct, live observations of many species that have previously been known exclusively from preserved and colorless specimens in museum collections," Lemaitre said. □

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to 60 C) work well for most fruits and vegetables — a brief plunge won't rupture the cells. Rather, the right amount of heat alters the biochemistry of the tissue in ways that, for many kinds of produce, firm the flesh, delay browning and fading, slow wilting, and increase mold resistance.



U.S. singer Beyonce, right, waves to fans as her husband, rapper Jay-Z, takes photos from Saratoga Hotel in Old Havana, Cuba, Friday, April 5, 2013. R&B's power couple is in Havana on their fifth wedding anniversary.

Associated Press

Cuban-American politicians decry Beyonce Cuba trip

CHRISTINE ARMARIO,
Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — Beyonce and Jay-Z's trip to Cuba has angered two Cuban-American politicians who are demanding information on whether the couple's visit to the communist island was licensed.

U.S. Reps. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen and Mario Diaz-Balart of Florida have written to the U.S. Department of Treasury expressing concern about the trip. In the letter, both said they represent a community that has been "deeply and personally harmed by the Castro regime's atrocities."

"The restrictions on tourism travel are common-sense measures meant to prevent U.S. dollars from supporting a murderous regime that opposes U.S. security interests at every turn and which ruthlessly suppresses the most basic liberties of speech, assem-

bly and belief," the Republican lawmakers wrote.

John Sullivan, a Treasury spokesman in Washington, said he could not comment on specific licenses. He said the agency was working on a response to the letter from Ros-Lehtinen and Diaz-Balart.

Beyonce and Jay-Z marked their fifth wedding anniversary in Havana last week. The state-run website CubaSi called it a tourist trip. The artists declined to speak with reporters.

U.S. citizens are not allowed to travel to Cuba for mere tourism, though they can obtain licenses for academic, religious, journalistic or cultural exchange trips. The so-called people-to-people licenses were reinstated under the Obama administration and are designed to help promote civil society and independence from Cuban authorities. □

Halle Berry, Michael Kors launch Watch Hunger Stop

SAMANTHA CRITCHELL
AP Fashion Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Halle Berry says she's a woman of compassion and Michael Kors says he's a man of action. Together, they want to make a dent in the battle against hunger around the world.

The actress and fashion designer announced a philanthropic campaign Monday called Watch Hunger Stop that includes raising money through the sale of a version of Kors' best-selling Runway watch. For each \$295 watch sold, 100 meals will be provided to children through the U.N. World Food Programme.

Berry and Kors are planning to visit places together where the meals will be sent. They could land in Africa, in Syria, perhaps Central America. The 46-year-old Berry, who is expecting her first child with fiance Olivier Martinez, said in an exclusive joint interview Saturday with Kors: "I hope we go while I'm pregnant, so I can talk about prenatal care." "And I will have time off," she said, patting her belly and smiling. "I'm not working right now." (There was no sign of a baby bump in her chic black sheath with a bit of beading at the neckline.) Berry, who has a 5-year-old daughter, said she wanted to meet and talk with mothers struggling to feed themselves and their children while she was expecting. It will help build a connection, she said.

"It's so important to me, be-



In this April 6, 2013 photo provided by Michael Kors, Kors and actress Halle Berry pose for a photo at Kors' Midtown office in New York.

Associated Press

ing a mom, that I can help educate women on how important it is that when you have a healthy child, it helps set them up for life." Kors and Berry hope to involve 5 million people, either through donations of time or money. Berry, who supports the Jenesse Center, an anti-domestic violence shelter in Los Angeles, said working with the U.N. "is the next evolution in my philanthropic world. It puts my heart and compassion on a global scale." Kors is a longtime supporter of God's Love We Deliver, a New York-based organization that delivers meals to those in need. "The change you saw when people going hungry got a meal — it was an immediate difference. This isn't about research or a big political or social change, this is about giving a meal to people who need them." "I go all over

the globe traveling, and there are very few things in the world that are solvable catastrophes," he said. "This is one of them." The designer said he asked Berry to be his partner in the campaign because "I'm enthralled by fabulous jugglers." The message would be strongest coming from two well-known voices, he said. "I wanted someone talented, check. Someone compassionate to the world, a great mother, someone incredibly glamorous and chic — and who makes it all look easy." "If we can use our celebrity, I want to. I don't want it to go waste," Berry said. "If would be a shame not to use it." There are many fundraising products for many good causes, Kors said, but choose a watch and it's simple math: a direct formula that it's 100 meals per watch as a conversation starter. □

Adam Levine to receive BMI's pop President's Award

NEW YORK (AP) — Broadcast Music Inc. has announced that Maroon 5 frontman Adam Levine will receive the President's Award at the 61st annual BMI Pop Awards on May 14. The event will be held at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel in Beverly Hills, California.

It will also honor last year's top songwriters in pop. BMI said Monday the 34-year-old Levine was selected for his "outstanding achievements in songwriting and the global impact he has had on pop culture."

Maroon 5 has released four

platinum-plus albums, including last year's "Overexposed." The album features hits including "Payphone," "One More Night" and "Daylight."

Levine is also a coach on NBC's hit series "The Voice." BMI is a music rights management company that

represents more than 500,000 songwriters, composers and music publishers. □

In a Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2012 file photo, Adam Levine, of the musical group Maroon 5, performs at the Grammy Nominations Concert Live! at Bridgestone Arena, in Nashville, Tenn.

Associated Press



Annette Funicello, Mouseketeer and film star, dies

FRAZIER MOORE

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Annette Funicello, who became a child star as a perky, cute-as-a-button Mouseketeer on "The Mickey Mouse Club" in the 1950s, then teamed up with Frankie Avalon on a string of '60s fun-in-the-sun movies with names like "Beach Blanket Bingo" and "Bikini Beach," died Monday. She was 70. She died at Mercy South-west Hospital in Bakersfield, California, of complications from multiple sclerosis, the Walt Disney Co. said. Funicello stunned fans and friends in 1992 with the announcement about her ailment. Yet she was cheerful and upbeat, grappling with the disease with a courage that contrasted with her lightweight teen image of old. "She will forever hold a place in our hearts as one of Walt Disney's brightest stars, delighting an entire generation of baby boomers with her jubilant personality and endless talent," said Bob Iger, Disney chairman and CEO. Avalon said Monday that Funicello never realized how beloved she was. "She would say, 'Really?'" he told The Associated Press. "She was so bashful



In this Oct. 20, 1990 file photo, actress and former Mickey Mouse Club member Annette Funicello arrives for the 15th annual Italian American Foundation dinner in Washington.

Associated Press

about it. She was an amazing girl." He added: "She really had a tough existence. It's like losing a family member. I'm devastated, but I'm not surprised." The pretty, dark-haired Funicello was just 13 when she gained fame on Walt Disney's television kiddie "club," an amalgam of stories, songs and dance routines that ran from 1955 to 1959. Cast after Disney saw her at a dance recital, she appeared in mouse ears, a pleated skirt and a turtle-neck sweater emblazoned with her first name. She soon became the most popular Mouseketeer in the cast, receiving 8,000 fan letters a month, 10 times more than any of the 23 other young performers.

Her devotion to Walt Disney remained throughout her life. "He was the dearest, kindest person, and truly was like a second father to me," she remarked. "He was a kid at heart." When "The Mickey Mouse Club" ended, Annette (as she was often billed) was the only club member to remain under contract to the studio. She appeared in such Disney movies as "Johnny Tremain," "The Shaggy Dog," "The Horse-masters," "Babes in Toy-land," "The Misadventures of Merlin Jones" and "The Monkey's Uncle." She also became a recording star, singing on 15 albums and hit singles such as "Tall Paul" and "Pineapple Princess."

Outgrowing the kid roles by the early '60s, Annette teamed with Avalon in a series of movies for American-International, the first film company to exploit the burgeoning teen market. The filmmakers weren't aiming for art, and they didn't achieve it. As Halliwell's Film Guide says of "Beach Party": "Quite tolerable in itself, it started an excruciating trend." But the films had songs, cameos by older stars and a few laughs and, as a bonus to latter-day viewers, a look back at a more innocent time. The 1965 "Beach Blanket Bingo," for example, featured subplots involving a mermaid, a motorcycle gang and a skydiving school run by Don Rickles, and comic touches by silent film star Buster Keaton. Among the other titles: "Muscle Beach Party," "Bikini Beach," "How to Stuff a Wild Bikini" and "Dr. Goldfoot and the Bikini Machine." The beach films featured ample youthful skin. But not Funicello's. She remembered in 1987: "Mr. Disney said to me one day, 'Annette, I have a favor to ask of you. I know all the girls are wearing bikinis,

but you have an image to uphold. I would appreciate it if you would wear a one-piece suit.' I did, and I never regretted it." The shift in teen tastes begun by the Beatles in 1964 and Funicello's first marriage the following year pretty much killed off the beach-movie genre. But she was somehow never forgotten though mostly out of the public eye for years. She and Avalon staged a reunion in 1987 with "Back to the Beach." It was during the filming that she noticed she had trouble walking — the first insidious sign of MS. When it was finally diagnosed, she later recalled, "I knew nothing about (MS), and you are always afraid of the unknown. I plowed into books." Her symptoms were relatively mild at first, but gradually she lost control of her legs, and she feared people might think she was drunk. So she went public with her ordeal in 1992. She wrote of her triumphs and struggles in her 1994 autobiography, "A Dream Is a Wish Your Heart Makes" — the title taken from a Disney song. In 1995, she appeared briefly in a television docudrama based on her book. □

Koolhaas unites architecture, design and fashion

COLLEEN BARRY

Associated Press

MILAN (AP) — Shedding his "puritanical" attitude against architects designing objects, Rem Koolhaas has shifted scale to create 11 pieces of furniture for the U.S. industrial design house Knoll. The Dutch architect's creations, which premiered Monday ahead of Milan Design Week, include a dynamic counter — a stack of three horizontal beams that can be transformed from a screen-like unit to cantilevered shelves and benches that invite people to sit, climb and lean in. The end result is a social/intellectual romper room. The "Tools for Life" pieces



Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas gestures at the Knoll industrial design house's space, part of the Milan's Furniture Fair, in Milan, Italy, Monday, April 8, 2013.

Associated Press

are meant for either the home or the office and

recognize that technology is also transforming interiors. Portable devices mean work and entertainment can happen anywhere, while the digitalization of books and music has streamlined the need for shelves. "Furniture needs to be more versatile. Any activity can happen anywhere. Furniture has to now behave in more than one kind of predictable way," Koolhaas said. In Koolhaas' vision, the pieces don't just furnish a room, they animate it. To take his pieces beyond aesthetics, the Koolhaas collection is highly engineered. The same principles of the dynamic

counter are applied to a coffee table, comprised of three transparent boxes that can slide and rotate to multitudinous purposes, one of which could be a Lazy Susan. Similarly, tables — round or rectangular — can be elevated or lowered to a relaxed lounge position, a traditional dining mode or a standing/active stance. They can be paired with chairs that also change height with the push of a red button — or go legless with cushioned floor seating. The Koolhaas collection, celebrating Knoll's 75th anniversary, previewed at the Prada showroom. Koolhaas has long designed the sets for Miuccia Prada's fashion

shows, transforming the industrial space for the latest round of cold weather collections into home interiors with some Knoll prototypes as references. In designing for Knoll, Koolhaas joins the ranks of such architectural legends as Mies van der Rohe, who made Knoll's signature Barcelona chair, and Frank Gehry, who designed the ribbon-like Hat Trick chair. "It's an issue of different speeds," Koolhaas said. "You can put a great fashion show together in two months, you can put a furniture collection together in a year and a half, and we can do a great building in five years. For me that is the only difference." □

The secrets of Princeton



Ross Douthat

© 2013 New York Times News Service

Susan Patton, the Princeton alumna who became famous for her letter urging Ivy League women to use their college years to find a mate, has been denounced as a traitor to feminism, to coeducation, to the university ideal. But really she's something much more interesting: a traitor to her class. Her betrayal consists of being gauche enough to acknowledge publicly a truth that everyone who's come up through Ivy League culture knows intuitively – that elite universities are about connecting more than learning, that the social world matters far more than the classroom to undergraduates, and that rather than an escalator elevating the best and brightest from every walk of life, the meritocracy as we know it mostly works to perpetuate the existing upper class. Every elite seeks its own perpetuation, of course, but that project is uniquely difficult in a society that's formally democratic and egalitarian and colorblind. And it's even more difficult for an elite that prides itself on its progressive politics, its social conscience, its enlightened distance from hierarchies of blood and birth and breeding.

Thus the importance, in the modern meritocratic culture, of the unacknowledged mechanisms that preserve privilege, reward the inside game, and ensure that the advantages enjoyed in one generation can be passed safely onward to the next.

The intermarriage of elite collegians is only one of these mechanisms – but it's an enormously important one. The outraged reaction to her comments notwithstanding, Patton wasn't telling Princetonians anything they didn't already understand. Of course Ivy League schools double as dating services. Of course members of elites – yes, gender egalitarians, the males as well as the females – have strong incentives to marry one another, or at the very least find a spouse from within the wider meritocratic circle. What better way to double down on our pre-existing advantages? What better way to minimize, in our descendants, the chances of the dread phenomenon known as “regression to the mean”?

That this “assortative mating,” in which the best-educated Americans increasingly marry one another, also ends up perpetuating existing inequalities seems blindingly obvious, which is no doubt why it's considered embarrassing and reactionary to talk about

it too overtly. We all know what we're supposed to do – our mothers don't have to come out and say it!

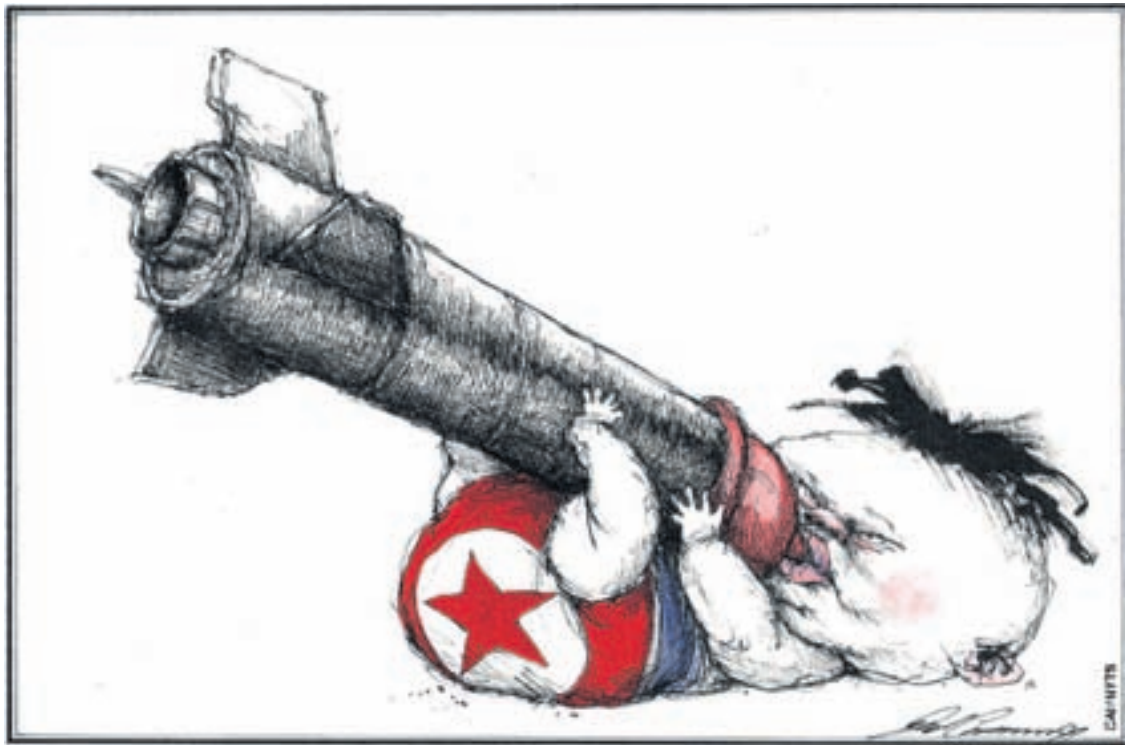
Why, it would be like telling elite collegians that they should all move to similar cities and neighborhoods, surround themselves with their kinds of people and gradually price everybody else out of the places where social capital is built, influence exerted and great careers made. No need – that's what we're already doing! (What Richard Florida called “the mass relocation of highly skilled, highly educated and highly paid Americans to a relatively small number of metropolitan regions, and a corresponding exodus of the traditional lower and middle classes from these same places” is one of the striking social facts of the modern meritocratic era.) We don't need well-meaning parents lecturing us about the advantages of elite self-segregation, and giving the game away to everybody else. ... Or it would be like telling admissions offices at elite schools that they should seek a form of student-body “diversity” that's mostly cosmetic, designed to flatter multicultural sensibilities without threatening existing hierarchies all that much. They don't need to be told – that's how the system already works! The “holistic” approach to admissions, which privileges resume-padding and extracurriculars over raw test scores or GPAs, has two major consequences: It enforces what looks suspiciously like de facto discrimination against Asian applicants with high SAT scores, while disadvantaging talented kids – often white and working class and geographically dispersed – who don't grow up in elite enclaves with parents and friends who understand the system. The result is an upper class that looks superficially like America, but mostly reproduces the previous generation's elite.

But don't come out and say it! Next people will start wondering why the names in the U.S. News rankings change so little from decade to decade. Or why the American population gets bigger and bigger, but our richest universities admit the same size classes every year. Or why in a country of 300 million people and countless universities, we can't seem to elect a president or nominate a Supreme Court justice who doesn't have a Harvard or Yale degree.

No, it's better for everyone when these questions aren't asked too loudly. The days of noblesse oblige are long behind us, so our elite's entire claim to legitimacy rests on theories of equal opportunity and upward mobility, and the promise that “merit” correlates with talents and deserts.

That the actual practice of meritocracy mostly involves a strenuous quest to avoid any kind of downward mobility, for oneself or for one's kids, is something every upper-class American understands deep in his or her highly educated bones.

But really, Susan Patton, do we have to talk about it? □



The day of the hunter



Frank Bruni

© 2013 New York Times News Service

People who rhapsodize about the glory of hunting never mention what an unfair fight it is.

Or was, in my case. I went last week, for the first time, visiting a bird-hunting grounds in Pennsylvania with two companions. The pheasants and partridges there had wings, which gave them one advantage over us. Over them we had something like 50 advantages: the number of shells for our shotguns. The gun on loan to me, a semiautomatic, could fire three rounds in rapid succession, which seemed to me as many as anybody could want or need before reloading. I'm a lousy aim, and still I killed.

I had never used a firearm before, not even on a shooting range, and understood the allure instantly. My 12-gauge semi was black, sleek, elegant and Italian-made, as much an accessory as an instrument of death. The Vinci, it's named, as in Leonardo da, the “Renaissance inventor, artist and thinker who shattered the technological boundaries of his world,” according to the website of the manufacturer, Benelli. This is how thoroughly a weapon can be romanticized and fetishized, as if it were a Rolex. As if it were a shoe. Holding it, I felt potent. But also anxious, even panicked, with a new grasp of how much could go wrong. The safety on the Vinci is a small, gray button, and the difference between on and off is perhaps a quarter-inch. In a moment's distraction, I could mistake one for the other. In a burst of adrenaline, I could deactivate the safety too soon before a shot or wait too long after to reacti-

vate it.

I could forget, when not aiming at a bird, to keep the gun pointed toward the sky or the ground. Or my pivot as I followed a bird's flight could bring one of my companions, so perilously near me, into my sights. I was haunted by this and by the fact that, although I was a first-timer, I needed no background check, no training, no proof of any dexterity to hold this shotgun and squeeze its trigger, not on the kind of regulated hunting grounds (called a preserve) that we went to. This country of ours makes it astonishingly easy for people to arm themselves and take aim. Is it any wonder that we have an exceptional harvest of gun-related injuries and deaths, many accidental?

I went hunting mainly for dinner. A few weeks ago I was in a favorite Manhattan restaurant, Tertulia, and its chef, Seamus Mullen, mentioned that he had been shooting and cooking game birds. I said that I had never eaten anything I'd killed myself and had never acknowledged, in that way, the connection between an animal's death and my nourishment and pleasure. We agreed that I should join him on his next expedition. An experience of hunting made ethical sense.

Political sense, too. Hunting is always coming up when the country is debating new restrictions on firearms, as we are now. Opponents of such basic gun-control measures as universal background checks and an assault-weapons ban talk of slippery slopes and raise the specter of parents' being unable to lend shotguns to their children for a wholesome duck or deer hunt. They assert the importance to hunters of certain semiautomatics that might be prohibited.

Hunting enthusiasts recently went as far as advocating a boycott of Colorado because the state had passed some entirely reasonable new gun restrictions. There's this assiduously orchestrated outcry that a primal, virile, broadly beloved American pastime is under dire siege from disconnected lawmakers.

And it's hokey. Let's take the broadly beloved part first. The

popularity of hunting has generally declined over the past four decades. According to a survey by the Fish and Wildlife Service, only 13.7 million Americans 16 or older hunted in 2011, the most recent year for which figures are available. That's in a country of more than 313 million people.

In Pennsylvania, the number of people interested enough in hunting to get licenses dropped from 1.2 million in the 1980s to about 930,000 now, according to Joe Neville, a spokesman for the game commission. And fewer than half of those people are such committed hunters that they renew their licenses regularly.

Hunters are already governed by a thicket of state and local regulations about whether they can use a rifle or a shotgun in a certain place, for a certain quarry; about how many bullets or shells it can hold; about when they can hunt; about how much, or even what gender, of a creature they can kill. Any tinkering that new federal measures would do is so puny in contrast as to be almost irrelevant. It's not going to threaten hunting as we know it.

And hunting as it's done doesn't always hew to the mythic man-in-nature images often promoted. Paul Ryan with his bow and arrow is one kind of hunter; a klutz like me with my Vinci loafer – I mean shotgun – is another.

The pheasants and chukar partridges, or chukars, that I was after had been scattered across a patch of property expressly so that Seamus, a friend of his and I could chase them down. That's how preserves work. The birds are raised there, and some are released from their pens just before the hunt.

Pennsylvania has more than 300 bird preserves, including the one where we hunted, Pheasant Hill Birds, in Honesdale. For about \$325, its owner released 20 pheasants and chukars. For another \$60, he lent us his Brittany spaniel, Red, to find and flush out the birds. Red was Advantage No. 51.

Advantage No. 52: Many of the birds weren't so quick to use their wings. We would be within inches of one of them before it fluttered skyward, and it would be maybe

With Pope Francis, it's prime time for Jesuits

RACHEL ZOLL
AP Religion Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — For decades, the Society of Jesus has faced the same struggles to find priests that have plagued the wider Roman Catholic Church. The Rev. Chuck Frederico, one of the priests who evaluate Jesuit applicants, says he usually heard from five a week, or fewer.

Then, last month, the former Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio stepped out on the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica — the first Jesuit to be elected pope.

The number of queries jumped to four or five each day.

"Some guys who made contact in the past weeks are serious candidates," said Frederico, vocations director for the U.S. region stretching from Maine to Georgia. "This election of the Holy Father has given them reason to examine this more fully."

Jesuits have only started absorbing the novelty of one of their own leading the church. Most were so shocked, they Googled to confirm the connection before they dared to celebrate. Robert Wassmann, an instructor at Washington Jesuit Academy, a middle school, told the Archdiocese of Washington newspaper he ran down the hall shouting: "He's a Jesuit! He's a Jesuit!"

But members of the order have also started thinking ahead, to the potential impact of this pontificate on their many ministries, colleges and overall future. Pope Francis could inspire new recruits and wider regard for the society. But he could also feel compelled to intervene in the inner workings of the order, which has had sometimes tense relations with the Vatican over the centuries. "In the context of young men and women considering a religious vocation and calling, it has to have an impact," said the Rev. Thomas Gaunt, a Jesuit and analyst at Georgetown University's Center for Applied Research in the



In this Sunday, March 31, 2013 photo, Pope Francis greets the faithful at the end of the Easter Mass in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican. Francis is the first Jesuit to be elected pope, and members of the order have only started absorbing the novelty of one of their own leading the church. But they have also started thinking ahead, to the potential impact of this pontificate on their many ministries, colleges and overall future.

Associated Press

Apostolate. "And that impact will be at least a blip on the screen and could be more."

Bergoglio was more than a rank-and-file member of the Society of Jesus. He held the order's most trusted positions in Argentina. Soon after he was ordained, he was appointed novice master, in charge of training the newest recruits. He went on to become provincial, or national leader, before joining the church hierarchy as a bishop in Buenos Aires. Francis has chosen a papal coat of arms featuring the Jesuit seal: a sunburst containing a red cross and the "IHS" abbreviation for Jesus Christ.

In pure marketing terms, it's the ultimate branding opportunity. Many Jesuit-run colleges, such as Georgetown, are already prominent and a top draw for applicants, although most of the order's 3,700-plus schools worldwide are smaller and many are struggling.

The Rev. Tom Smolich, president of the Jesuit Conference USA, said some are half-jokingly wonder-



In this May 27, 2005 file photo released by the Vatican paper L'Osservatore Romano Pope Benedict XVI greets Cardinal Carlo Maria Martini at the Vatican.

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ing about a papal version of the "Flutie effect," a reference to Doug Flutie, quarterback for Jesuit-run Boston College whose last-second "Hail Mary" desperation pass won a 1984 game against Miami. In the aftermath, BC's applications increased.

Mostly, though, the society is hoping for what the Rev. Matt Malone, editor of the Jesuit magazine *America*, called "a moment of reconciliation." Previous popes have disciplined Jesuit theologians over liberal

teachings. In 2008, Benedict XVI sent a letter asking the order's worldwide members to pledge "total adhesion" to Catholic doctrine, including on divorce and homosexuality. "That the cardinals would even consider choosing a Jesuit now, I thought, marked a new beginning in that relationship," Malone wrote.

Recognized by the church in 1540, the order was founded by Basque soldier Inigo de Loyola. Jesuits swear an oath of obedi-

ence to the papacy and have been dubbed "God's Soldiers" for their readiness to evangelize anywhere the pontiff sent them. Jesuits brought Christianity to 16th-century Japan. A 19th-century Belgian Jesuit was a peace negotiator between the U.S. government and Sioux Indians.

But depending on the era, the society could be viewed with as much suspicion as respect.

Their growing influence sometimes generated resentment.

Anti-clerical European monarchs pressured Pope Clement XIV to abolish the society in 1773 — a suppression that wasn't lifted until 1814. Still, Jesuits remained a target for anti-Catholic conspiracy theorists who believed the priests were scheming to overthrow foreign governments.

The order has become known more recently for academic rigor seen in the universities they built in the U.S. and around the world. Jesuit scientists have made so many advances in astronomy, physics and math that 35 moon craters have been named in their honor. But partly because of these intellectual achievements, claims of elitism often surround the society.

The Rev. Joseph McShane, president of the Jesuit Fordham University, opened a recent event with a quip playing on the order's reputation and Francis' no-frills papacy. The pope has kept the simple, iron-plated pectoral cross he used as bishop and living in the Vatican guesthouse rather than the grand papal apartment.

"A humble Jesuit? An oxymoron. A Jesuit pope? An impossibility. A humble Jesuit pope? A miracle," McShane said.

In the 1970s, when the church was debating how it should relate to the modern world, the order's General Congregation, or legislative body, decreed that "the service of faith" and "the promotion of justice" would be the focus of every Jesuit ministry. □